

COMRADE

NEWSLETTER of FRIENDS of O.M. No.1 MARCH 1986



'THE SPIRIT LIVES!... THE REST WILL FOLLOW'

With these inspiring words of Oswald Mosley, that greatest of Englishmen, challenging the winds of Destiny - warning of that 'long, slow crumbling' into final decay of our Island race - calling on those he led to 'give all and dare all' for England's sake — FRIENDS of O.M. leads its first NEWSLETTER and proclaims its purpose as a reason for existence.

Inspired by the ever-present undefeated spirit of Mosley, a few of his old comrades formed Friends of O.M. three years ago, for the immediate purpose of reuniting old friends at social gatherings. Such an occasion was on O.M.'s birthday last November when nearly eighty sat down to dinner with Lady Mosley, the Guest of Honour at a London hotel.

We do not currently engage in political activity, but feel the urge, and believe it to be in pursuit of Mosley's purpose, to meet and share in that spirit of Brotherhood that he inspired to great effort through successive generations.

All old comrades, true, tried, and tested in the life-long march with Mosley, are needed now to 'hold the line' for those new generations — and we hear their whispers in the winds — who in their search for truth will one day feel the need to look back for a message of help from the past, and with new clear sight see the majesty of the challenge by Mosley and those 'strange disturbing' men who rallied to his call.

We that are left now in the autumn of our lives — are bound in comradeship, and in a debt of honour to those early Black-shirts, many no longer with us, who lit the flame that still lights the way ahead towards the survival through renaissance

of the British and the European peoples.

With the going down of the sun, and in eternal union with those who have gone before, we make this our final contribution to Mosley the Man, and to those ideals for which he and so many fought and suffered, and which history might one day record, to have been even greater, than that made with the crusading eagerness and joyous laughter of our bursting youth, with the godlike Mosley by our side. And that, "They have conquered nevertheless".

Mosley Lives



RONALD CREASY,

Blackshirt

Councillor for EYE, Suffolk in 1930s, replies to LADY MOSLEY at the Commemoration Dinner with

"The spirit of our Leader remains a dominant imperishable factor and inspiration..... Mosley symbolised the past, present and future. He is past, present and future. An embodiment of the whole inseparable from this evening"

Friends of O.M.

RUN BY
MOSLEY MEN

FRIENDS of O.M. is organized by an informal council of five, four of whom were personally chosen by Mosley for the MOSLEY DIRECTORATE when he retired from active politics in 1966.

All old friends who the organizers know have been loyal to O.M. during his life, are welcome at our functions, as are their guests from the younger generations, too young to have been involved in our struggles, but searching for a way ahead.

Our activities are in areas where there exists a vacuum, and we have therefore heard from old comrades, some old and infirm, who will find it difficult to attend functions, but we promise we shall not forget them. Any aid and comfort that is within our power will be at their disposal.

Those who wish to be with us will be recorded in our mailing list, invited to our functions, and hear from us from time to time with news of old comrades.

We do not have a membership and thus we do not ask for subscriptions or other finance. All overhead costs are borne by the organizers and such old friends who wish to participate.

The Mosley Message

"Mosley had a remarkable gift of being in tune with the main historical tendencies of his age" wrote his biographer Professor Robert Skidelsky in 1968. That very quality... "keeps his ideas fresh for present and succeeding generations"

'MAY-DAY' Buffet Supper Saturday 3rd May

OLD COMRADES

ARTHUR MASON, former BU District Leader, Limehouse, sends regards from Australia to all old comrades. Asks for news of Tommy Waters, once Limehouse; Fred Charles, who went to New Zealand in 1950s; Geoff Clarke; Paddy Driscoll; Dimo Murray.

JOHN CHARNLEY, Southport, one of four Blackshirt brothers, and former BU D/Leader Hull and Propaganda Officer, Yorkshire, out of hospital after serious illness, has completed his life story. Good luck John!

DICK BELLAMY, former BU Parliamentary Candidate Blackley, Manchester, sends regards to all old comrades. Now 85, Dick has spent last 15 years on massive history of BU that had "long been my dream that my story of Mosley and our Movement could be my greatest and ultimate contribution to what we have stood for, and battled for so long"

BOB SAUNDERS O.B.E., sends warm regards to old friends from his Dorset farm. Until his retirement 2 years ago, Bob had held senior posts in National Farmers Union, believes that we have not only to keep Mosley's memory alive, but also do what we can to see that his ideas come to fruition.

FRANK CORK, DFC, sends his best regards from Norfolk.



LADY MOSLEY speaking at Commemoration Dinner in November

'THE SPIRIT LIVES'

Discovered in Essex alone with his memories, but still a fighter, 85 year old **ARTHUR BEAVAN**, seen here at 37, we were met with a warm smile and strong handgrip, in spite of his arthritis, and we noted his Bronze Distinction Badge of Merit awarded in 1937. "It never comes off - indoors, outdoors" he volunteered.



We entered his room where three framed photographs decorated the mantel-himself, his wife - the late 'SCRAM' **BULLIVANT**, both in Black-shirt - and O.M. in fencing kit.

A nostalgic two hours passed and on leaving, our guest, an Oxford research graduate, asked "And what do you think of Mosley now?" Arthur's reply was immediate. "The greatest Englishman in the last" - and his eyes twinkled - "2,000 years. There are none alive that could approach him, and there never will be".

With his "Join me up with Friends of O.M." we said our goodbyes, and I felt that apart from other reasons, Friends of O.M. was fulfilling a purpose.

Over 20 years alone with just memories of the past, yet with a purpose almost indelible in its nobility --- symbolic of the human spirit in all its glory. A Life-Force which the modern pundits cannot begin to understand, but which one which was an understood and feeling stimulus to those who joined Mosley in his long march.

Tail-end reminder

"MAY-DAY"
BUFFET SUPPER

Reserve NOW by remittance.

Bring a friend

«Arthur Beavan was already at sea at 14, serving in Merchant Navy and Army during World War I. Later he served in U.S. Army.

On returning to England he became active with Communist Party until birth of British Union, where he found the end of his search.

He soon became Unit Leader of famous "I" Division, then District Leader, West Ham, and BU Parliamentary Candidate for Upton.

•• Friends of O.M. have been assisting Stephen Cullen, with some success, in his search for old BU members to assist him in his research project to produce a thesis on the history of British Union.

He writes "Compared with comparable historical events, the academic literature is somewhat patchy. As one writer puts it 'perspectives remain clouded in emotion'. In my work I am trying to create an accurate history of the day-to-day activities, beliefs and hopes of the ordinary member".

We believe Mr. Cullen's work, the first of its kind, to be of immense historical importance and we ask those old members not yet in touch to write him at **NUFFIELD COLLEGE, OXFORD, OXI. INF.**

OBITUARY

We regret to report death of **CHARLIE PACKER** from heart attack last November. In his early fifties, he had been expected at our Commemoration Dinner. He will be remembered as the back-room boy working on accounts for Union Movement and allied areas since 1948, a role which did not prevent his reign of Conservative Mayor of Bexley in 1978 to 1979.

"BIG
DAN"



Welcoming Lady Mosley at the Commemoration Dinner, **DANNY HARMSTON** spoke of "his love for Oswald Mosley, whose lady is with us tonight". "Big Dan", Smithfield Market meat porter and former boxer, has stood for **UNION MOVEMENT** in two Parliamentary elections. He was chosen by O.M. for the **MOSLEY DIRECTORATE** when he retired from active politics in 1966.

COMRADE

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF O.M. NO. 2 JUNE 1986



18B FILES REVEAL 46 YR OLD COVER-UP BRITISH UNION VINDICATED

IT is forty-six years since members of BRITISH UNION were arrested under an amendment to Defence Regulation 18b, rushed through Parliament on May 22nd. 1940. Mosley was arrested the next day, and four days later, when the Home Secretary, Sir John Anderson, was ordering the round-up of several hundred of his supporters, many of them highly-decorated ex-servicemen of the 1914-18 war, he was at the same time issuing a document stating "no man will be penalised for the mere holding of political opinions, however unpopular they may be".

Those detained had broken no laws - were never charged with an offence - but were incarcerated for years in British prisons and concentration camps on the decision of one man, successive Labour Home Secretary, HERBERT MORRISON, who when young enough to fight in the imprisoned ex-servicemen's war had been a conscientious objector, and urged British soldiers not to fight.

The war was going badly, and the politicians were in a state of hysteria when faced with a crisis of their own making, and their own neglect. And true to party political form, they found their scapegoat. MOSLEY and BRITISH UNION. In their panic and vindictiveness they destroyed what Englishmen had won over the the course of centuries - the right to free trial, that undeniable right born out of MAGNA CARTA in 1215. "No freeman shall be taken or imprisoned...unless by lawful judgement of his peers or by the law of the land". The war against tyranny and oppression - for the 'right to be free' - had been truly joined.

CHARLIE WATTS in 1938. His persuasive power was too dangerous for the politicians war for freedom!



'DANGER
MAN'

MI5's MOSCOW MOLES

Although MOSLEY was detained by shoddy political skulduggery - Labour's price for joining Churchill's Government, it is clear that attempts to bludgeon British Union members into false confessions at the Ham Common torture den was to provide 'evidence' to charge MOSLEY with treason.

They should have looked nearer home for their treason. Among the traitors, queers, and society misfits that we now know proliferated at MI5, such as that

The files of some 800 of these BRITISH UNION political prisoners have recently been released by the Home Office, the first 15 now on view at the Public Record Office, Kew. They seem to have been chosen at random; some senior officers not now alive, district leaders, and some unfortunate non-active members whose detention would seem to have been chosen by the throw of the dice.

The one undeniable truth emerging from the files, is, as we in BRITISH UNION have always believed, that the one object of proscribing BRITISH UNION and detaining its members, was to silence its lawful political opposition to a war which it believed was not in the true interests of Great Britain, and at that time peace with honour possible.

Space does not permit a detailed review of all files, but the evidence in the file of the late CHARLES F. WATTS tells the story which runs through all the files.

An Advisory Board document of Sep-1941 found that the Camp Commandant at Huyton that "he was an ardent supporter of British Union although at same time, pro-British from point of view of desiring Britain win the war. Detention record good (he volunteered for night rescue work in air raids)". It continues "within the conventions of the Union in its most Nationalistic aspect, WATTS can be considered loyal, but his unswerving devotion to the Union and his apparent power of attracting other people to share his views, makes it difficult to suppose that his release, even on conditions, would be devoid of risk to our national security and I feel that the Order for detention must be maintained". Signed by one TRENCHARD COX, with a penned footnote, "He is much too plausible for safety".

A further cause for concern was WATTS's organising of the LONDON CAB GROUP. Special Branch reported a 1,000 pre-war membership. Just imagine him loose among a thousand cabbies. With their chatty ways - and the persuasive CHARLIE - what damage could be caused to national security!

One could laugh if it had not been so tragic for those whose lives were ruined, in many cases, for life.

And it was no laughing matter for CHARLIE WATTS, when, he and selected others, were taken to the notorious LATCHMERE HOUSE, HAM COMMON, the home of that unlisted Government department, where weeks of psychological torture in a semi-starvation regime of solitary confinement were practised to fry and 'break' them. To force 'confessions' on BRITISH UNION's so-called 'relations with the enemy'.

He did not 'confess', nor did any other, for there was nothing to confess. Nor did he 'break', but at a cost. After the three week 'course', the 37 years old CHARLIE came out with his dark hair turned to greying-white.

It was in fact CHARLIE WATTS who finally 'broke' his MI5 interrogators. Pulled from his bed in the middle of night, the unseen interrogators lurking behind the spotlights into his eyes, a gun directed at him, and the final baiting, sneering "And what do you think of BRITISH UNION now?". The end came suddenly. Springing to his feet he gave a full salute and with a shout "HAIL MOSLEY.....and ****'em ALL"!

CHARLIE and others gave their all for MOSLEY and BRITISH UNION, and, as one day it will be proved...for the British people.

WE who are left salute them.

"IT HAS HAPPENED HERE". The experiences of a Political Prisoner in British Prisons and Concentration Camps during the Fifth Column panic of 1940/1.

By CHARLIE WATTS

Charlie Watts, who is featured on our front page, wrote this story of his time as a political prisoner, in 1948, but it remains unpublished. We will, in a small way publish this for Charlie by using excerpts from time to time. Here you will see how he was a useful friend of O.M.!

"If the boys can take it"....

RIGHT from the start I was, to say the least, very displeased and disgusted to find that O.M. was expected to keep his own cell clean etc. It amused me to see other people on the Pot Parade, but with the Leader, my reactions went the other way. But he took it like the great man he is. I determined to try and make his prison life as easy as possible so offered my services as a sort of 'batman'. These were immediately refused. He said 'I may be the Leader outside, but here I am one of the boys, and if the Boys can take it - so can I'. I persisted day after day and several times incurred his displeasure and annoyance. I would wait until his back was turned and then nip into his cell and tidy up a bit, or fetch a jug of water or something like that.

So 'must' I!

One morning, as soon as my door was opened, I followed the Screw round the landing, and as soon as he opened O.M.'s door, I nipped in, grabbed his jerry and got his own crack back at him while he was still in bed. 'You may be the Leader outside but in here you're one of the boys and I'm emptying the bloody thing this morning'.

He looked astonished and I expected a real mouthful when I returned the empty, but found him highly amused. This served to break down his resistance and from then onwards I'm happy in the knowledge that I made his life just a little easier for him.

front page

odious Professor, **ANTHONY BLUNT**, whose brief, working under Soviet control in F Division, was British Union. With some assistance from **ROGER HOLLIS**, who ran the Division, later knighted and promoted MI5's Director General, and now widely believed to have been a top Soviet mole.

Concurrently, Communist traitors at the Foreign Office were passing top secrets to Moscow by the sackful.

How right was MOSLEY on the eve of the War "THROUGH A BARRAGE OF LIES WE ADVANCE TO CHALLENGE AN INFAMY THAT STINKS TO HEAVEN. IN SUCH AN HOUR TO PLAY THE PART OF MEN IS TO LIVE IN BRITISH HISTORY. FOR 'WE IN IT SHALL BE REMEMBERED. WE BAND OF BROTHERS'".

MAGNA CARTA

MAY THE SOUL OF EVERYONE WHO MARRS THIS SENTENCE GO OUT AND STINK IN HELL. (Archbishop of Canterbury in 1253 to those who violate Magna Carta.

MANY of OSWALD MOSLEY's EAST LONDON supporters were unaware of the detention of he and his members of BRITISH UNION in May, 1940.

They never did know

'THEY DIED AT CALAIS & DUNKIRK'

ON MAY 23rd. 1940, SIR OSWALD MOSLEY was ignominiously arrested with no charge or trial to follow: only a conspiracy of silence and innuendo, set to continue to the end of his life and beyond. By the end of June, some 800 men and women of BRITISH UNION, including Mosley's wife, DIANA, had been detained. Many thousands of his supporters in the Forces, who had actively supported his efforts to avert the war in which they were now enmeshed, were quite unaware of this situation until much later. This was particularly true of his East London supporters, many who never did know. For they died around Calais and Dunkirk.



PAT DONEGAN
marching with
UNION MOVEMENT
in 1949

By PAT DUNEGAN

On the same day, I sat behind an antiquated Lewis-gun in a sandbagged pit by the side of a Belgian road near Ypres. Ypres! the name was familiar. I had read about it in school history books, and heard my father talk about it. Had I heard Oswald Mosley refer to it. I don't know: certainly he had often spoke about the carnage of World War I, and fought hard to avert this World War 2. I had actively supported him since early 1936 in Shoreditch, then Islington branches of British Union. "MIND BRITAIN'S BUSINESS" had been the basis of the campaign to try out of a foreign quarrel, which, as he forecast, cost us an empire and needless loss of thousands of British lives.

Before that day I had seen only a very few dead - in repose surrounded by sweet smelling flowers. The foul stench of death and screams and moans of the wounded had marked me for ever. As I gazed on the gelid, pathetic inane things that were once human, I understood for the first time Mosley's abhorrence of war, and his answer to a question I once asked. "The glamour ends when the killing begins".

Four days later, trapped with about forty others in a four-storey warehouse under concentrated bombing attacks over several hours, the exit blocked by fallen masonry, it seemed we were to be entombed. From the dust and gloom in a corner of our concrete umbrella came the singing of a popular hymn (how we invoke the aid of the Lord when death seems near!) but in my agnosticism I could not join in the chorus and instead sang with vigour British Union's Marching Song. To my amazement, and with not a little fear, I thought I was on the side of the angels as two lusty voices joined in. One, with whom I later escaped, was from Hackney, and a fan of British Union's Mick Clarke; the other, gave me a broad grin as we finally dug our way to the fading light, and I never saw him again. I was lucky and jumped off the mole at Dunkirk on June 3rd. to return to a very different England, with many of my old comrades interned, but most in the services, many of whom I know died in those four days of a brother's war that they and their Leader had been unable to stop.

I have many times since visited the Military Cemetery at Dunkirk, where I salute those who lie there asleep. Yet I never feel alone as I silently sing the Marching Song as I did with fuller voice so many years ago. And from row on row of white crosses, I hear a vocal accompaniment, and wonder if their social ring halves some spot in Paradise.

So many gone, so few remain, yet still with faith in Mosley, Our Man, his ideas, our creed. If "the spirit lives, the rest will follow".

MOSLEY Y...THE MAN



HOW does one write of this man. Describe the indescribable. Assess the unassessable. Compare the uncomparable. Clothe in words a personality outside the use of language.

He disrupted my life. Destroyed my peace of mind. Made demands on my time and leisure which I could not ignore. Yet I loved him. He was my Leader. I met him many times and each time my commitment and dedication became more intense and complete.

Reared in a political home I had noted Oswald Mosley who was often in the news during the twenties, but it was not until his speech of resignation from the 1930 Labour Government, read while unemployed in a Southampton bed-sitter, that he penetrated my consciousness, and it was three years later before I donned the Blackshirt.

First meeting

How well I remember our first meeting. It was during the Cotton Campaign in Lancashire, and after a march from Accrington to Burnley I was told he wished to see me after the meeting. I was worried because I thought I would be reprimanded, or perhaps expelled. A few weeks earlier I had led two young members into a street fight in Cheetham Hill before the start of the Free Trade Hall meeting in Manchester. We were beaten up and I hurled through a shop window. I had been questioned by Manchester police, and I thought I was now to receive my just deserts for unseemly behaviour.

We met, and I was asked for my account of the affair. Silent for a few moments, he then stood up, extended his hand, looked at me with those magnetic eyes and said "Charnley, I need men like you"

Beacon of light

That moment he lit a fire which still burns in my heart. I have only to close my eyes to feel his presence, hear his voice. He needed me. I was 25 years old and had never before been needed. Years earlier the choir-master at St. Alban's, Blackburn had

wanted me in his choir, but he did not need me. Later, in Southampton, the choir-master at St. Boniface's wanted me in his male voice choir, but he did not need me. Close friends of my earlier days in Southport had wanted my companionship, but they did not need me. But this man, Oswald Mosley, one of the most talked-about political leaders of the day said he needed me. It is not surprising to me that his spirit still leads, and I have no wish but to follow. My faith never needed renewal, it was always constant, but every time I met him it was an enervating experience. It was like being in the presence of a living fire which warmed the heart and stimulated the spirit. In those dark days of the thirties he was like a beacon of light. I think it was American poet Havelock Ellis who wrote "To some it is given - if they will, to lighten the darkness that surrounds our path". He was the Beacon Carrier.

'I am with you all the way'

Living in the provinces, far away from the London political centre, I was fortunate to have many opportunities to meet him. In 1935 I moved to Hull and we met at a speakers school in Leeds. He asked me the outcome of the 'window affair'. I said I had been exonerated --- "My body had been used by persons unknown to cause wilful damage". He asked with a laugh if I had been afraid. I said I had not, but there was a time a year later - at the meeting on Corporation Field, Hull, when I was very much afraid. He knew it, but talked me out of showing it.

It was the bloodiest meeting I had attended, and apart from Town Moor, Newcastle, the only one he addressed that had to be closed down, and the only one where all the four Charnley Blackshirt brothers were present.

When he got off the platform and spoke to the Chief Constable, he turned to me with "Well Charnley, what do we do now? We are relying on you to lead us off the field and back to headquarters. Surrounded by a howling, raging mob, I was scared. In the heat of action I had stood up to the barrage of missiles and assorted weapons, but to head for that mob was more than I dared. He

h. By
JOHN
CHARNLEY

speaking
in London in 1949



looked me in the eye and said "which way do we go", and I pointed the direction. He held my shoulder saying "Make straight for them and I promise you, if you show no fear they will let us through. I am with you all the way". What else could I do? I made for them and when only a few yards away, they opened up and we marched through. Our ranks were bro-

ken twice but we carried our casualties with us. I could not have done it without O.S. He was able to inspire you to attempt and achieve things which otherwise you would have thought impossible.

Straight to the point

Talking to him after the Abdication, I was regretting our inability to assist the King. His comment was immediate and blunt. "He never wanted the job, and in any case you cannot continue to fight for a man who refuses to fight for himself". He had immediately seized the kernel of the subject and reduced it to its true level in our struggle.

Overcome

Once at a meeting in Bermondsey, he saw me on his way to the loudspeaker, paused, shook my hand, and said with a smile "You here again Charnley... these national rallies would not be complete without you would they?" I was so overcome I could not reply. He knew how I felt. He nodded, turned, and climbed on to the van.

Anticipated arrest

I next saw him in Leeds when we were fighting the 1940 bye-election. I asked his views on our future. He told me his legal advisers had assured him that our actions were within the law, but from sources he could not reveal, expected that he and some senior officers might be arrested. Probably 20 or 30, which could include myself as Yorkshire's Senior Propaganda Officer. His source did not expect detention to last long, because we had always acted within the law. He thought Government action would accompany legislation proscribing the Movement, thereby prohibiting any future political action. In the event of a small number being detained for a limited period, he hinted that help would be available for the families of those in need. The final picture was out of all proportion to what he had been advised to anticipate, making tentative arrangements impossible. I make specific mention of this conversation because it had been thought by some that he had adopted a callous attitude on this score.

'He was unique'

I did not see him again until after the War, first in London, and later, when he had moved to Ireland. I spent a week-end with him, to be joined later by Raven Thompson and Bob Bow, to discuss the timing of renewal of political activity.

It has been a long road and these thoughts of an old comrade are nearing their end. I was proud to publicly declare my loyalty in the BSC's "Britain in the Thirties" a few years ago when I said "I had nailed my colours to his mast and I shall never take them down".

He was a political giant, an intellectual genius. What more is there to say except that he was OSWALD MOSLEY. He was unique.

: OLD COMRADES :

LES GOLDSMITH, Australia, writes "The elder I get the more I realize that if only Britain had taken Mosley's advice, Russia would not now be occupying half of Europe. Churchill's (and Roosevelt's) legacy. The division of Europe."

LESLIE GRUNDY, Harrogate, former BU District Leader, Huddersfield, finds it difficult now to attend meetings, but "I shall always remain loyal to the memory of our great leader, and am proud to line up alongside the Friends of O.M."

RONALD CREASY, Suffolk, "I am with you in spirit" as does his daughter...

MRS. AMANDA DANIEL, Suffolk, "I am sad to have missed the events in which my father and many others shared, and I hope that I will be there to carry on the memory of O.M. and his message to counteract in a small way the lies perpetuated by those who are still frightened of him".

DR. PETER PEEL, California, wishes he could have joined us on May Day, and sends "heartfelt good wishes to your publication, and all my good comrades of BUF". Perhaps next year when he returns home.

PAT DUNEGAN, Kent, "British Union and Union Movement remain an ineradicable part of our lives and I sometimes ponder just how many of the lost legion of supporters of our age still have some spark within them. I am sure there must be many".

WILLIAM WOOD, Leeds, another veteran Yorkshire Blackshirt "I look forward to further letters and news of activities--in spite of old age!"

ROB SMYTHE, Herts, "It is really heartening to read about my old friends and comrades, even the ones I did not know personally. The idea and the spirit will never die".

MRS. ROSE PRENTICE, Australia, "I was thrilled to receive your newsletter. Reading the names of some old members really took me back to the old days".

JOHN CHARNLEY, Southport, "What was the power of this man Oswald Mosley that could weld together an indissoluble bond of permanent commitment, not only to an idea, but to each other in a bond of comradeship which is indestructible. Best wishes to all my old comrades.....See page 3.

* MAY-DAY BUFFET SUPPER *

SOME 60 odd attended our MAY-DAY Buffet Supper at a London hotel last month, including many old friends present for the first time, and younger guests, attracted by the MOSLEY story, made up a wide cross section of public life, from small businessmen to medicine and the law. One American guest joining us had been inspired by O.M. on his lecture tour of U.S. in 1968.



LADY MOSLEY

With us again, but this time at her request as "One of the boys"!

FRIENDS of O.M.
send Best Wishes to
LADY MOSLEY
on her Birthday, June 17th.

After a tribute of one minute silence for old comrade PADDY DUHIG, who died in April, DAN HARMSTON spoke of the need for the social activities of FRIENDS of O.M. as one way of propagating the ideas of O.M., and keeping his name alive for the benefit of future generations. It was necessary to attract youth, but even more important was that we draw 'the best', a quality that history tells us is a product of all ages.

Words from absent friends were given by JOHN CHRISTIAN, who reminded us of the unforgettable words of O.M. 'Together in Britain we have lit a Flame that the Ages will not extinguish'. "Some of the old brigade have returned" he said, "to fulfill that trust placed upon us by O.M. long ago. This is our purpose. This is our ultimate contribution. We stand guard on that Eternal Flame. For MOSLEY; for his LADY OF ORSAY; for ENGLAND - and for EUROPE!"

OBITUARY

We sadly report the death in April of PADDY DUHIG, of Millwall, one of the first to join UNION MOVEMENT in 1948 on his release from RAF, seen here in the Drum Corps in the fifties.

He was a founder of FRIENDS of O.M. and attended the first reunion. Almost bed-ridden for the last two years, it did not stop him bombarding his local press with O.M.'s ideas.

A former docker, 58 yr. old Paddy was a popular figure in dockland, as he was in the street where he lived, neighbours lining their doorways as he left for his last resting place.

Several old comrades delivered a wreath from FRIENDS of O.M. and joined the cortege in a last farewell.

'So long' Paddy, true and faithful friend of Mosley.



'THE SPIRIT LIVES'

"THE best birthday I've had for years" said the old Bethnal Green 'battler' DICKIE BURWOOD, after an 80th. birthday reunion with old comrades from BU and UM, who had descended on him at his 'local', armed with a FRIENDS of O.M. Birthday Card signed by old comrades who had not seen him for twenty years...and LADY MOSLEY

Seen here marching with MOSLEY after his first street meeting after the War, Dickie's battle-scarred body bears witness to blows taken and given in defence of Mosley and his cause over half-a-century, and not least when he fell on O.M. to protect his face after going down under a hail of blows when arriving at a Dalston meeting in 1962.

"I am not as sprightly as I was" said Dickie. "I would give my right arm to be at Mosley's side today. He was...THE GREATEST".

So simple, yet full of feeling for and understanding of the Man, who for so many, for so long, remains the shining example of all that is best in this life on earth.

Thank you for the past, old warrior. For the future, we know... 'the Spirit lives', and by your example, 'the Rest will Follow'. Johnny

COMRADE

An Ancient and Sacred Word

THE launch of COMRADE has been greeted with enthusiasm... "Comrade is an excellent title, it sums up the immediate air of the sheet", from a young associate. Two old comrades have however expressed reservations on the title. This question was aired in the early days of B.U. and we feel we cannot improve on the words of the writer of some of the early BU Marching Songs, E.D. RANDALL, and his use of the word Comrade.

He suggested that there was "not in our language another word which more fittingly and completely expresses the ideal of unity in the service of a common cause. It is an ancient and sacred word.....It is true that Socialists and Communists have caught up this beautiful word and exploited it to base ends and applied it to an ignoble struggle. But it certainly never belonged to them... Since when has the language of our fathers been the property of the gutters? Since when have they enjoyed a monopoly over the most poignant and appealing word in our tongue? Finally, it is the Leader's personal verdict... that the word 'Comrade' may be used without prejudice".

BRITISH UNION

ROLL OF HONOUR

FRIENDS of O.M. are compiling a BRITISH UNION ROLL OF HONOUR of those members who were killed in the last War. This entails much research in view of the time that has now elapsed, and we would appreciate any information on any of our old comrades who would be legible.

The MOSLEY Message

"WE count it as a privilege indeed to serve Britain in her great moments, and the standard we raise, and the call we make, is the standard of sublime sacrifice, and the call to high endeavour. In this moment we raise once again the glorious standards of Britain to the world, and again proclaim the proud motto of our glorious generation "Who dies if Britain lives".

Albert Hall, June 1934..... June 1986.

Albert Hall In Spirit with us
June 1934 June 1986

* MOSLEY COMMEMORATION DINNER *

Saturday November 15th. 1986

MAKE YOUR EARLY RESERVATION

COMRADE

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF O.M. NO.3 SEPTEMBER 1986



THEIRS THE GREATER GLORY MOSLEY MEN FIRST CASUALTIES — 'AND THEY CALLED THEM TRAITORS'

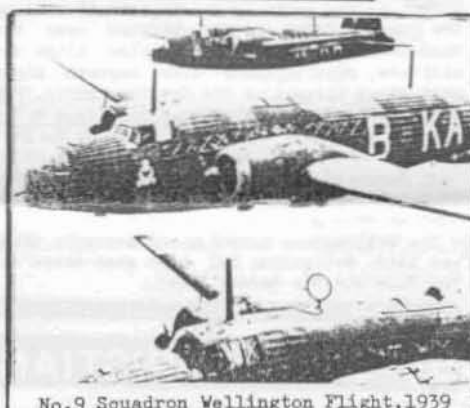
ON this forty-seventh anniversary of the start of the last War, we throw the lie of the century - that **MOSLEY** and his supporters were potential traitors and would have betrayed their Country given the chance - back in the faces of those who still wish to keep covered the real truth of the Blackshirts sacrifice in the service of their Country. We reveal, that even before the politicians of the day had clucked their pious, hypercritical way through a day's debate following the declaration of war, two young members of **BRITISH UNION** lay dead, killed in action in the war they and their comrades had fought tooth and nail to prevent.

The **FIRST** official casualty of the War, a **MOSLEY** Blackshirt, followed by another on the same list, and in the same action. **AND THEY CALLED THEM TRAITORS!**

Royal Air Force ground crew, acting volunteer air gunners for the day, 20 yr old **AC2 KENNETH DAY**, and 22 yr old **AC2 GEORGE BROCKING**, died together when their Wellington L4275 was blown out of the sky during a bombing raid of 6 No.9 Squadron Wellingtons from Honington, Suffolk, on German battleships at **BRUNSBUTTEL** at the mouth of **KEIL Canal** on the second day of the War.

The body of young **Ken Day** was picked up 10 days later by a cargo steamer between Elbe lightships I and II and buried two days later with full military honours at **Oxhaven Cemetery**. The body of his friend **George Brocking** was never found and his name is inscribed on the Air Force Memorial at **Runnymede**, just one of the 20547 World War 2 airmen with no known graves.

Two Wellingtons were lost in the operation - one by A/A fire, the other shot down by a German fighter pilot believed to be Pilot Sergeant **Alfred Held** in a **BF109** operating from **11/JG77**, **Nordols**, in what was claimed as the first Luftwaffe victory in the War against



No.9 Squadron Wellington Flight, 1939

THE DAY THEY DIED

page 2

the RAF.

Londoner **GEORGE BROCKING**, and **KEN DAY** from Essex, were, because of their RAF service, non-active members of **BRITISH UNION**, but associated freely with Suffolk members. One old Suffolk Blackshirt remembers them as 'courageous and reliable members and Brocking's former District Leader, an intimate friend, described him as 'a grand and splendid lad, fond of fun, with an ever ready smile; yet his frequent discussions on the problems of the time, and the **BRITISH UNION** remedy for them, revealed an intelligence far beyond the average. **KEN DAY**, happy-go-lucky, had volunteered for, and been accepted, by the RAF's Advanced Air Striking Force for operations in France on Germany.

They would have died as they lived; with a smile on their lips, conscious of the odds against them, but fighting to the end, an outlook on life that as **Mosley's** men they would have felt and understood.

These two young men were the first of the many members of **BRITISH UNION** whose bones - even those who had suffer-

red previous unjust internment - lie scattered over three continents. Those of us who came back searched in vain for those familiar laughing loveable young faces who had marched with **Mosley** in the great marches before the War, now know that this hope of reunion was never possible.

They had fought to prevent the War, believing it not to be in the real interests of the British People. Their whole being was to build the Britain of their dreams, and they could see that even in 'victory', a Britain relegated to a small island in the Northern seas, and a weakened and divided Europe subservient to the only victors and new colossus - the United States and Soviet Russia. They fortunately did not live to see the land they loved descending into the state of a banana republic, but who now can say they were far wrong.

In the age old tradition of the British, they did not however 'choose to live and shame the land from which we sprung', and while many brave young men died believing they were fighting in a just cause, it is not to slight their memory that we say, that for the **BRITISH UNION** dead, forced by their patriotism to fight and die for an unworthy end, theirs was a Greater Glory.

For **BROCKING** and **DAY**, their early death will remain an example of the honour and purpose of those who followed **MOSLEY**. A symbol for future generations to seize and reveal for posterity the further truths of the **MOSLEY** story.

To those politicians of today, who would still go along, with the closed minds of their lying predecessors; to that contemporary establishment baked in progressive liberal thought; to the Fleet Street hacks who would still decry our story of **BROCKING** and **DAY** and our Blackshirt dead; in fact, to all who the old values such as honour, duty, and patriotism are anathema we say, with apologies to Great War soldier poet **Wilfred Owen** for some liberty with his 'Greater Love'.....

Lie, Swear, defame, you may still defame, For you may touch them not.

MOSLEY'S MESSAGE

Before war began, in our struggle for peace, our thousands of members had swarmed great masses of the British people to demand peace. But sufficient of the people could not be convinced in time without the money which we did not possess. Now British Union will continue our work of awakening the people until peace be won, and until the People's State of British Union is born by the declared will of the British People.

To our Members my message is plain and clear. Our country is involved in war. Therefore I ask you to do nothing to injure our country or to help any other Power. Our members should do what the law requires of them, and if they are members of any of the Forces or Services of the Crown, they should obey their orders, and, in every particular, obey the rules of their Service.

We enter now a period when the people will be swayed by events. When we have established sufficient of the people to the truth, peace will be won and Britain and her people will be saved for a glorious future.

To the million I shall continue to devote my life. Nearly twenty-five years ago, when I was barely eighteen years of age, I was flying over the German Rhine in the last war. Later, I found the Germany of the Kaiser in the trenches. We have said a hundred times that if Britain were threatened we would fight again.

For the moment I am not concerned to argue about the incidents which preceded the outbreak of war, for time will show the whole truth.

It is sufficient to say that a war cannot be fought every twenty years to prevent any remedy of the situation in the Peace Treaty which concluded the previous war. So in our people I give myself to the winning of Peace.

September 1, 1939

Mosley

1939

"Little is known of the Wellington raid on ships at Brunsbittel"

The Bomber Command War Diaries, 1985.
Martin Middlebrook and Chris Everitt.



THE DAY THEY DIED

"TO our Members my message is plain and clear. Our country is involved in war. Therefore I ask you to do nothing to injure our country or to help any power. Our members should do what the law requires of them, and if they are members of any of the Forces or Services of the Crown, they should obey their orders, and, in every particular, obey the rules of their Service".

It is doubtful if BRITISH UNION members GEORGE BROCKING and KENNETH DAY had seen MOSLEY's Message by the time they hauled themselves into No. 9 Squadron's Wellington L4275 just before 4 o'clock in the afternoon on September 4th, 1939, at their HONINGTON, SUFFOLK Royal Air Force station.

"He is dead who will not fight"

But they would have known, as would all BRITISH UNION men already in the services, that the declaration of war had placed Britain in immediate danger, and the honour of MOSLEY and BRITISH UNION dictated that there was no other path to choose.

They had been standing by for 48 hours in accordance with 3 Group operating instructions. Time to consider their short past. Time to debate the madness and stupidity of the politicians in leading the sons of the First War generation into a European brothers war in which not one British interest was at stake. And time to bask in the glow of memory of the comradeship of BRITISH UNION as they awaited the call they knew would come.

"Be swift and keen as they"

For BROCKING and DAY, both Aircraftman 2nd Class, and normally on ground crew duties, had volunteered for flying duties as air gunners - to be called at short notice - and a five week course qualified them to wear a metal bullet shaped badge on the arm of their uniform as a description of air crew. Soon was to be the moment of truth as for the first time, in their lonely fixed single gun turrets of the Wellington MkIA they faced the reality of fighter attack - an experience which in their short training had been considered not possible to simulate.

At last - the atmosphere of a peace-time exercise is broken by a succession of terse instructions, and in just over an hour after the first operating signal on that afternoon of the second day of the War, 6 Wellingtons, in 2 flights of 3, roared off the Suffolk base to bomb 2 Battleships, believed to be the Scharnhorst and Gneisenau, at low altitude, at BRUNSBUTTEL in the mouth of the Keil Canal. And as the Pegasus XV111 engines vibrated over the Norfolk countryside in the slow climb for altitude, superstitious crew members might have given thought on the Squadron motto, 'PER NOCTEM VALAMIS'.... Throughout The Night We Fly, and as they gave what was for some the last look at the land that bore them, they might have pondered its relationship to the bombing of a heavily armed German Fleet at low altitude in daylight.

The Wellingtons droned on and suddenly, there was land. Navigation had been good - there was the Elbe - and the German Fleet.

By JOHN CHRISTIAN

"If this be the last song you sing"

First in, flying at 6,000 feet, FLIGHT LIEUTENANT I.P. GRANT led his B Flight vic of 3 through heavy A/A fire from several cruisers, a battleship, and two shore batteries, dropping their bombs at the battleship at the same time. They were immediately forced to pull into cloud without seeing the results owing to the heavy concentration of fire, an action which brought them safely home to base.

"When the burning moment breaks"

BROCKING and DAY's A Flight vic of 3, led by SQUADRON LEADER L.S. LAMB, were less fortunate. Running in some twenty minutes later, they were immediately attacked by 9 Messerschmitt 109 fighters scrambled out of the Luftwaffe NORDHOLZ base, forcing SQUADRON LEADER LAMB to jettison his bombs, and by accident straddling a German merchantman, enabling a quick climb to cloud safety and home base.

"In the air Death moans & sings"

For Wellington L4268, and BROCKING and DAY's L4275, there was no cloud cover. Reports from German sources suggests that one was brought down by A/A fire, and the other by a fighter.

Also involved in the operation were 6 Wellingtons from 149 Squadron, Mildenhall, only one of which claimed to have bombed the target. An unidentified Wellington dropped two bombs on the town of Esbjerg, Denmark, 100 miles north of BRUNSBUTTEL, killing two people.

"INTO BATTLE"

And Life is Colour and Warmth and Light
And a striving ever more for these;
And he is dead who will not fight.
And who dies fighting hath increase.
The kestrel, hovering by day
And the little owls that call by night,
Bid him be swift and keen as they,
As keen of ear, as swift of sight.
The blackbird sings to him "Brother, brother,
If this be the last song you sing,
Sing well, for you may not sing another,
Brother, sing".

And when the burning moment breaks,
And all things else are out of mind,
And only Joy of Battle takes
Him by the throat and makes him blind,
Through joy and blindness he shall know
Not caring much to know, that still
Nor lead nor steal shall reach him, so
That it be not the Destined Will.
The thundering line of battle stands,
And in the air Death moans and sings;
But Day shall clasp him with strong hands
And night shall fold him in soft wings.

..Julian Grenfell.

At the end of the day, 2 Wellingtons and 10 crew had been lost without a hit on the target. The airgunners in their fixed single turrets were at great disadvantage against attacking fighters, and it was to be the last raid that the Mark I Wellington was used. Within a few months, all 3 Group Squadrons had been re-equipped with Mark IA aircraft with 2 and 4 gun power operating revolving turrets, giving an edge to the defence against attacking fighters.

Four days later, SQUADRON LEADER LAMB, pilot of A Flight's sole surviving Wellington, was decorated by HM King George VI for his part in the raid. Two months later, he and four of his crew at BRUNSBUTTEL, were killed in a flying accident, and were buried at Honington Church with full military honours.

We salute all those young men of the Royal Air Force who died on that operation. Some now think that they were unnecessarily sacrificed in what was no more than an experiment to test the German defences, and the RAF's professional capabilities. To that extent it was successful in that low level bombing by Wellingtons was never repeated against such targets.

"And night shall fold him in soft wings"

But GEORGE BROCKING and KENNETH DAY, who were never to learn of the disgraceful treatment of MOSLEY and their BRITISH UNION comrades, will ever hold a special place in our hearts. For in defeat they were victorious, and in death they gave new life. Victory for the spirit of pride in self and country, and of MOSLEY's purpose.. 'Deliberately wevilled the birth of a type who was half soldier and half politician, partly a tough warrior..and partly an inspired idealist...This was our dream...'

And they gave new life and new hope for the generations who are to come, who will one day yearn for something more in life than the dissatisfying materialism of today. They will begin to feel that there 'are greater things than slothful ease; greater things than safety; more terrible things than death'. And BROCKING and DAY will have shown the Way.

RAF No. 9 SQUADRON OPERATIONS REPORT

All Aircraft reached objective. No. 1 Section attacked by 9 German Fighters - one claimed shot down by P/O Leech. German merchant ship successfully bombed and set on fire by Sq/Ldr Lamb. No. 4 Section encountered heavy A/A fire but succeeded in bombing a Battleship lying in harbour. No. 2 and No. 3 of No. 1 section did not return to base and were reported missing. First Squadron to draw blood.

'The Spirit Lives..

MOSLEY Y...THE MAN



MORE THAN NOSTALGIA

2. BY ROBERT SAUNDERS, O.B.E.

A short article on OSWALD MOSLEY is almost impossible, as there is so much to be said. His impact on all who knew him was tremendous; he certainly changed my life profoundly, but that is of no importance to anyone other than myself.

One recalls him as a leader of men; as a clear-sighted politician; as an outstanding orator. One remembers the power of his personality, both at huge meetings and at intimate gatherings; his courage, both moral and physical; his political proposals; his economic theories; his patriotism and belief in the British Empire; his advocacy of "Europe a Nation"; his war record and his great campaign for peace. One could write about each and all these aspects of OSWALD MOSLEY and still fail to do full justice to his memory.

Those who knew him and worked with him will wish to do all that is within their power to ensure that history does him the justice that the media denied him. Seldom has any public figure been subjected to character assassination on such a scale. So there is an immense task to put things right. Fortunately the writings of Lady Mosley and Robert Skidelsky have ensured that a true picture is available. Fortunately, too, there are emerging young academic historians who believe that history should not be distorted by political prejudice. They believe that they can only be true to their discipline if they question the authenticity of the image of Mosley created by the representatives of the decadent society which he so fearlessly challenged - a challenge that was such a feature of the history of Britain in the 1930s.

His true significance

But we need to do more than indulge in nostalgia. We have to do more than just recall the man we knew and all his attributes. We must take a leaf from his book and look forward rather than back. And if we are to look forward and understand OSWALD MOSLEY's true significance for future generations, we have to turn to his writings and speeches.

Striving to ever higher forms

MOSLEY's enemies ensured that he had time to read and think during his wartime incarceration, and, typically, he made full use of that opportunity. These thoughts are embodied in his "The Alternative", published in 1947, and his autobiography, "My Life", published in 1968. It is the latter pages of both books that are so significant for the future. In them he expounds "a divine creed which serves the purposes of God as they are revealed in nature's long striving to ever higher forms". Those who have read David Attenborough's "Life on Earth" and "The Living Planet", or watched the T.V. series on which they based, will have some understanding of the almost incredible process of evolution. It is to this and its purpose that O.M. draws our attention, and that of future generations.

Those who grasp this purpose welcome every advance of science as progress along this road. Not for them the abject anti-nuclear campaign or the reactionary attitude of "The Greens" and other Luddites. O.M. once said that if you gave a man a steamroller you assumed that he would use it to mend roads, not to knock down houses. In the same way one assumes that nuclear power will be used responsibly for constructive purposes. The only doubt in one's mind is the suitability of those in whose hands it currently rests. The great need, therefore, is to hasten the production of enough of MOSLEY's "Thought-Deed Men" - of which he was so typical an example - who would use constructively the ever increasing powers that modern science provides.

The Man of the Future

Long after memories of MOSLEY's personality have faded, long after his political and economic theories have been superseded by events, his writings will remain a clarion call. As the best of the human race become to understand the purpose of evolution they will become inspired to equip themselves so as to better "deliberately accelerate evolution" and thus play a conscious part in the destiny of man.

All this, to me, reveals the significance of the OSWALD MOSLEY I knew. He was never a man of the past; he is still the Man of the Future.



O.M. greets BOB SAUNDERS at a UNION MOVEMENT Conference in London in 1954. Former Bob is a former BRITISH UNION District Leader for DORSET WEST, and holds the 2nd Cl. Certificate in Election Law, and BRITISH UNION's Bronze Distinction Badge of Merit.

.. THE REST WILL FOLLOW!

British Union ...

'roots in our Island past'

THE continuing interest in the history, ideas, structure and development of fascism in Britain in the twentieth century appears to show little signs of diminishing. In the past few years alone there have been several major contributions to knowledge on various aspects of the movement.

Such is the introduction to 'BRITISH FASCISM' edited by KENNETH LUNN and RICHARD C. THURLOW, published in 1980 by CROOM HELM, but which has until now escaped us. A collection of fourteen essays by various academic contributors, it deals in depth with 'new evidence and interpretations of the phenomenon of British Fascism and suggests areas which need further research' continues its descriptive jacket.

Part II is devoted entirely to the BUF, and includes an essay by ROBERT SKIDELSKY in which he defends his views in his MOSLEY biography.

Kenneth Lunn, who was Lecturer in Historical and Literary Studies at Portsmouth, and Richard Thurlow, who was Lecturer in Economic and Social History at the University of Sheffield, and have their own essays in the book, have got together an interesting and important work, and although now five years old, it is probably the latest major published research on this 'phenomenon', a point made frequently by the essayists.

Although it is early days, we are beginning to see the revisionism of the MOSLEY Movement of the thirties, as new and younger scholars approach the subject with open minds. They are beginning to see that BRITISH UNION was a 'phenomenon' in that it was a purely British ideology, springing from the roots of our Island past, and different in so many respects from other fascisms.

Its suggestion that further research is required, like SKIDELSKY, five years before, supports the view of the FRIENDS of O.M. that what we are doing in this field is of much importance for the major revision of the false historical image of MOSLEY and the thousands who struck to his cause in the 1930's.

Priced at £16.95, it is unfortunately out of print, but copies should be obtainable with a diligent search.

BRITISH UNION Anniversary

OCTOBER has always been of special significance to those who have been life-long friends of OSWALD MOSLEY.

October 1st, 1932, is the Anniversary of the Movement's Foundation, and October 4th, 1936 saw the last large BLACKSHIRT March before the Government legislated to make the wearing of political uniforms illegal, in an attempt to stop the progress of MOSLEY's ideas. That date also has some significance, because of the media created myth of 'the battle of Cable Street, when the action of 'massed ranks of East London workers' allegedly began the downward path of MOSLEY and BRITISH UNION support.

'COMRADE' is therefore to publish a special next month and we would welcome contributions - just a few lines is sufficient - from any old Blackshirts who were present on that day, or anything they feel they would like to say about any of the other anniversaries.

Friends of O.M.

Commemoration Dinner
Sat 15th November 1986

Birthday Greetings

1934 "I" Squad

ARTHUR BEAVAN, Dagenham
Former BU "I" Squad,
District Leader, WEST
HAM, and Parliamentary
Candidate, UPTON. ON
his 86th. September
2nd. Hail Mosley!



In Memoriam

"Hark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages."

BOX H. BU Westminster (St. George's)
A Founder Member Cab Trade Group.
On August 9th. 1939

BROCKING G.T. and DAY K.G. Clapham
Branches BU No. 9 RAF Squadron,
Together over the Elbe on Septem-
ber 4th. 1939. The First Casualties
and the First Blackshirts. We
shall never forget them.

HART Ernest D. Beckenham. BU, 18B,
UM. Research Dept. NHQ from early
days. Edited 'ACTION' in June 1940
after Editor and others detained.
For which he was detained. Pion-
eered UM. In August 1950

ROSMOND William G. BU, UM, Bethnal
Green Branch. In September 1952

MITCHELL Andrew N. Glasgow Branch
UM, and Merchant Navy. In
September 1950 at sea.

WATTS C.F. 'CHARLIE' BU District
Inspector, Westminster. Organiser
Cab Trade Group. Camp Leader, Ascot
Concentration Camp, 1941. On
August 26th. 1971, in Cornwall.
H.M.F.O. Charlie!

The MOSLEY Message

'SO alone in all great hours of British
history has ever stood the undying spirit of
the English in the forms of those who feared
nothing and cared for nothing except the
life and honour of Britain and her people.

In dark hours before, that spirit has been
gloriously victorious. In face of all evil
and material forces of the earth through the
final struggle—it shall not fail!

'Action' In Spirit with us
2nd. September 1939..... 2nd. September 1986

'Comrade' gets around!

ONE of the objects of FRIENDS of O.M. is to trace
those, who, for various reasons, have lost touch
with old comrades, and perhaps bring some com-
fort to those who are alone, by the publishing
of 'COMRADE'.

But sometimes, we bring some comfort in unex-
pected areas.

We have on our circulation list, a number who,
though never members of BU or UM, are known to
have been good friends of O.M., and our last
issue, which featured the story of CHARLIE WATTS,
came into the hands of the secretary of one such
recipient.

She was EILEEN, the second of Charlie's three
daughters, and, 'probably, the most like him'. !

She remembers well the day of
his arrest in 1940 when she was a
small girl, but she did not really
get to know him until later life,
and therefore missed much of him
in her maturing years.

She has now learned much about
her father she did not know, and
been in touch with some of his old
comrades.

She knows now that her father
holds a very special place in the hearts of
those of us who are left, and who were privi-
leged to be counted as his friend and comrade.

Welcome- Charlie's 'Little Girl'.



CHARLIE
1937

OLD COMRADES

WE are overwhelmed by the letters we are re-
ceiving since starting our newsletter in March
and here we publish extracts from two sent in
response to our appeal for news of members of
BRITISH UNION killed in the last war for our
Roll of Honour.

FRED BAILEY

From JOHN LINKLETT, Bristol.

Under your heading British Union Roll of
Honour you appeal for information concerning
BU members who lost their lives during the War.
There is one such member named GEORGE BROOKER
who I met during 1941 or 2. I think he came
from Exeter or thereabouts. When I met him, hav-
obtained his address from an Exeter member, he
was working on a farm after release from Staf-
ford goal after detention under Regulation 18B.
Parts of the goal had been reopened to accom-
modate the political prisoners. I remember him
telling me of the dampness and the poor light-
ing, and as he was a studios type and read
much whilst inside, his sight had been affected.
He told me that he couldn't tolerate the ost-
racism levelled at him from those around him,
and he would probably join the Army, which he
evidently did and was captured in Italy. I got
his address in a German POW camp from an Il-
ford member and my letter was acknowledged. You
will remember however the severe winter of 1944
when the German armies, refugees and POWs
marched westward under most dreadful condi-
tions, and from what I learned after the war,
George Brooker was taken from a cart by some
nuns, but unfortunately he died in their care.

I have wondered if he has any known grave.
Perhaps the Commonwealth War Graves Commis-
sion can help.

I expect there are many such sad stories of
former comrades who campaigned with Mosley to
prevent the war and then paid with their lives
unnecessarily.

In due course COMRADE hopes to supply the
information on his friend for JOHN LINKLETT
who was District Treasurer, EAST HAM, BU.



'LONDON, THE GLAMOUR YEARS, 1919-39' by SUSANNE
EVERETT, published by BISON BOOKS, 1985 is the ti-
tle of a well produced A4 size book of over 200
pages, crammed with photographs in black and
white and colour. It covers a wide area of acti-
vity of the between-the-war years.

What is of particular interest to FRIENDS of
O.M., is the 'new treatment' now becoming disce-
rnable, regarding MOSLEY and BRITISH UNION. There
is probably more space now being used in dis-
cussing the Man and the Movement that allegedly
failed, than there was in the last thirty years
of his life, and most certainly in regard to the
late thirties.

In 'The Glamour Years' a whole chapter 'THE NEW
POLITICS' is devoted to MOSLEY and BRITISH UNION,
and opens with a 17 x 12 inch photograph of the
May Day March from Westminster to Bermondsey in
1938. Two other large photographs of the same
double-page size, feature the thousands at the
finale of the March in Slipper Place, and of
MOSLEY's first BUF meeting in Trafalgar Square
in 1932. A number of other photographs are also
used, and old Blackshirts may see for the first
time a picture of O.M. in tie and tails in a
feature of 'The Blackshirt Dinner, 1934'!

The text, by Susanne Everett, who is the wife of
military historian JOHN KEEGAN, is of her own
particular style and interpretation of what is
fairly recent history. We would not agree with
all her deductions, but will not adversely criti-
cize.

Excellent produced, and although not cheap,
well worth the price at £13.95



From JOHN CHARNLEY, Southport.

(We are withholding the name of John's subject
as both he and COMRADE have no wish to intrude
upon his sorrowful memories, should he still
be alive.)

The D**** affair was quite a tragedy. F****
was District Leader of East Hull, the constitu-
ency I was to contest at the election which
never came. His father was a well known per-
sonality in Hull, sympathetic to our cause. He
was married to a local Blackshirt girl whose
brother was my treasurer, and his brother was
District Leader of Kingston-on-Thames. F****
was arrested with me but his brother was al-
ready in the services. Shortly after our ar-
rest F****'s parents decided on a holiday in
Belfast with his uncle and aunt, and with them
went his wife and child. We were in Ascot at
the time. Belfast had its first (and I believe
only) air raid. Two bombs were dropped and one
of them killed the whole family. F**** was all-
owed out in handcuffs to go to the funeral.
F**** was released soon after and he went to
stay with his sister-in-law in Kingston-on-
Thames. Soon after, his brother was killed in
action, and much later F**** married his sis-
ter-in-law and went to live in Derby, and I
hope life has been kinder to him than it was
in those dark days so long ago.

JOHN CHARNLEY was BU County Propaganda Officer
for Yorkshire, and Prospective Parliamentary
Candidate for E. Hull.

★ HOW WE DO IT ★

FRIENDS of O.M. are often asked
who pays for each issue of
'COMRADE'

Simply by old friends of O.M.
who feel able to do so, showing
their appreciation by volunt-
arily paying for print runs
and postage, and other expenses.

OBITUARY

IT is with sorrow we report the death on August
17th. of BU and UM member Mr. E.C. EVENS, of UP-
MINSTER, formerly of South London, and send our
deepest sympathy to Mrs. Evens in her grievous
loss.

EDDIE EVENS, 73, joined BU in 1935 after the
purchase of 'The Blackshirt' which used the
large photograph showing Blackshirts saluting
King George Vth. and Queen Mary as they drove
past the 'Black House' NHQ in Chelsea on one of
their Jubilee Drives during the Silver Jubilee
Celebrations.

His services to both BU and UM were often
unseen, but those familiar with his many tal-
ents called on him on innumerable occasions
for the use of his services, which were always
given with his own quiet enthusiasm.

A pharmacist, he was until recently, a Council
Member of The Pharmaceutical Society of Gt.
Britain for a number of years.

Farewell old friend. We shall miss you

COMRADE

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF O.M. NO. 4 OCTOBER-NOVEMBER 1986



THE VICTORY THAT NEVER WAS

page 2

Having discovered the existence of 'COMRADE', the Daily Telegraph on October 14th suggested that FRIENDS of O.M. were attempting to 're-write history, and in particular, our exposure in a Newcastle paper of the Communist and media created myth of the 'Battle of Cable Street' in 1936, when, it suggested, 'a Blackshirt procession in London's East End was put to flight'.

Our response to a news item in the Newcastle Evening Chronicle, the letter was used in a form upholding the best traditions of British provincial journalism.

As much of the text had been written in preparation for this special edition, we are using it as presented in that provincial newspaper.

Mosley protest date marked

A VICTORY against fascism 50 years ago is to be celebrated in Newcastle.

And Geordies who remember the day that marked the fall of Sir Oswald Mosley and his British Union of Fascists will top the bill.

Many thousands of protesters blocked Mosley's march through Cable Street, in a Jewish area of East London on October 4, 1936.

Now Tyneside and District Anti-Fascist Association is holding an anniversary party, on Saturday October 4, at Moorside School, Beaconsfield Street.

"We hope any Geordies who were there on that day or remember the reaction to it on Tyneside will come along and talk about what they saw," said a spokesman for TDAFA.

"When Mosley and his thugs were forced to retreat it was the turning point for Fascism in Britain. It lost all support."

"But now the threat of racism has come back to Tyneside, so we want to remind people they can fight against it," he said.

As well as speakers from the North-East and London, there will be music, poetry and a play about the Cable Street march.

The event starts at 8 p.m. Admission is £2 (waged) or £1 (unwaged).

Truth about the Blackshirt March

I SEE that your local "anti-Fascists" are to celebrate the 50th anniversary of what they claim to have been a "victory" over Sir Oswald Mosley and his Blackshirts when "thousands of protesters blocked" the streets around Cable Street, East London, an event which they claim was the "turning point" for Mosley's movement, marking its fall and loss of all support.

In the interest of accuracy I write to correct the attempt of the contemporary extreme left to portray a Communist created myth into a historical truth, a manoeuvre in which they are traditionally prone.

It is certainly true that for weeks before this "battle of Cable Street," the Communist Party and its allies, had agitated to prevent the Blackshirt march through East London, organised to celebrate the fourth anniversary of the Mosley Movement.

It was to take in four street meetings addressed by Mosley in areas which had shown some degree of support for his ideas.

On the day thousands of protesters were brought to London from all over the British Isles by the Communists, who spent the afternoon erecting barricades and fighting the police in streets half-a-mile away from the beginning of the march, apart from ganging up on any lone Blackshirts they could find and beating them up.

In view of this surrounding violence, the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, Sir Philip Game, banned the march and informed Mosley it would have to take place westwards — in the opposite direction, Mosley, law-abiding to a fault, obeyed the instruction.

A question asked, at the time of "who paid" the vast amount of money to transport these thousands of "protesters," many of them unemployed without the financial benefits of today, has never been answered.

It was of course portrayed as a great "rising of East London workers against Mosley." Does one assume therefore that the Geordies who were there on that day were originally East Londoners who later moved to Newcastle and became accepted Geordies?



October 4, 1936: Police march away arrested men from barricades in Cable Street, Stepney.

As used EVENING CHRONICLE, Tuesday, September 23, 1986

The truth of the matter is however, that the invasion of traditionally patriotic working class East London by the Red mobs achieve the opposite of what they claim, for it proved to be a catalyst creating massive support for the Blackshirts.

Two weeks later thousands of East Londoners rallied to Mosley at enthusiastic mass street meetings, unadvertised and called at a few hours notice, without a sign of "protesters" present on the day they "stopped" Mosley.

Six months later, in March 1937, Blackshirt candidates polled nearly 20 per cent. of the votes in the LCC elections, in the very boroughs where Mosley was to have had his march, and which had allegedly "risen against him."

Even the Communist Daily Worker had to admit it a "dis-

turbing feature," and the Manchester Guardian reported it as "a surprising indication of strength," and The Observer "the size of the vote was a surprise." That is fact... not myth.

Audience

And three years later, only six weeks before outbreak of war, Mosley addressed 30,000 people at Earls Court Exhibition Hall in what was described as the largest audience ever to attend an indoor meeting anywhere in the world, persuading Cassandra of the Daily Mirror to suggest it "a considerable achievement" and that "there was no doubt that the adherents... are increasing."

Finally, and nearer the truth, is the view of the leading left journalist of the day, Hannen Swaffer. Writing in World's Press News in 1943 under the heading of "Saved

by the War," he admitted that it was "left to the war and 18b" (imprisonment without charge or trial) to deal effectively with Mosley and his Movement," concluding "Yes, but for the war we might have been a Fascist country."

So whatever else the latter day lefties of Tyneside and District Anti-fascist Association are celebrating on October 4, the "victory" over Mosley half-a-century ago is a "non-event."

Perhaps they should celebrate the deaths of innumerable numbers of Mosley's Blackshirts whose bones lie scattered over three continents fighting for their country in the war they had tried to prevent, while many of their "anti-fascist" opponents had tried to sabotage the war effort when Stalin was son the German side, and only discovered their loyalty to Britain when their Soviet fatherland became endangered. — JOHN CHRISTIAN.

THE 'VICTORY' THAT NEVER WAS....



TOMMY MORAN...after the battle.

'HE AROSE LIKE A PHEONIX'

'One lonely Blackshirt tries to stem the tide' the Daily Mirror's caption to this picture of TOMMY MORAN, attacked by the mob when arriving at the Assembly point with a small group of Blackshirts.

A newsreel shot of the fight brought cheers from cinema audiences as they saw Tommy, ex-cruiser weight champion of the Navy, lay-out a circle of his attackers before being downed from behind with a barbed wire wrapped chair leg.

JOHN CHARNLEY writes 'I arrived as the fight started. I saw Tommy go down and appeared badly injured. To my amazement, he arose like a phoenix, blood pouring from a head bandage, and re-entered the fray, putting many more opponents to the ground'.

October 4th.1936 will one day be recalled in legend. But it is of TOMMY MORAN, not the communist mob, that will be the song that's sung.



PROSTITUTING that great phrase of the French armies before Verdun in 1916 - 'They Shall Not Pass'-the Communist Party and its Labour allies, after weeks of agitation, mobilised a mob, armed with every conceivable sort of weapon, imported from all over Britain and including a nucleus of Soho and Stepney gangsters, to mass and block the narrow Cable Street and areas around the start of BRITISH UNION's Fourth Anniversary March on October 4th.1936, persuading a weak Commissioner of Metropolitan Police to back the lawbreakers, and direct the march westwards, away from the mob, and the streets where MOSLEY was to speak, and where it had been shown he had some support. It is very unlikely that the Commissioner, Sir Philip Game, made the decision independent of a Government directive. A total surrender of the hard won freedom of assembly and free speech to anarchy and mob law. A precedent for their political heirs of today in their surrender to the mobs at Handsworth, Bristol, Brixton, Toxteth, and Broadwater Estate.

According to Pat Devine, then Lancashire District Communist Party and one of the mob's organisers, writing in the Morning Star, 'a million leaflets were issued, hundreds of posters printed, and hundredweights of chalk were used to paint London white'. He did not mention the costs - including the transporting of his mobsters to London, and the 'expenses' for the unemployed, but they were certainly beyond the internal finances of the Communist Party.

The question that was asked of 'who paid' is one that is unlikely ever to be answered in the absence of a 30 year rule for release of government papers in the Kremlin.

The Daily Worker at the time hailed it as a victory for 'East London workers', who had 'spontaneously risen against Mosley', and has sought to perpetuate the myth that it marked the end of support for Mosley and British Union, a view which is not in accord with the historical facts, but which has been so recorded by those who control the channels of communication. The union of mob and money.

That a blanket censorship in press and radio of British Union activity existed in the final years of the Movement's history is now admitted, and it is therefore not surprising that for a number of years after the war, studies of the period by the new generations, even those starting from a neutral base, drew the conclusion of British Union's decline when faced with this lack of reportage in the files of the national press and other sources of information.

It is only in recent years that the newer academics, Professor Robert Skidelsky and others have penetrated this barrier of disinformation with meticulous study of Government papers and other sources of information. They have given an alternative view on the 'battle of Cable Street', and its relevance to the history of British Union.

A biased informant, but one whom in the circumstances must be noted, is communist Lou Smith, one of the mob's organisers, who it could be said has 'let the cat out of the bag'. According to the Morning Star On October 6th. last, he reminded people that much of the organisation was done by the Stepney branch of the Communist Party' and 'that contrary to general opinion the mass turnout had not been spontaneous'. Another to Siberia! Sorry Lou, we have overlooked the better times. Its now a psychiatric hospital.

Far from marking the end of BRITISH UNION, October 4th.1936 "stood out in the minds of those fine lads that are gone, and those that still remain, as one of the greatest days in the Movement's history" as put by former Limehouse District Leader ARTHUR MASON in an Anniversary message from Australia.

BRITISH UNION came to an end at the topmost peak of its eight years of struggle and sacrifice in the interest of the survival of the British people, by the imprisonment without charge or trial of its members, and the outlawing of its normal legal activity. In a war which it tried to prevent, and which has reduced our country to a shadow of its former influence, its heritage destroyed, its inability to defend itself, BRITISH UNION saw its East London supporters decimated by enemy bombing at home, and the supreme sacrifice of many of its East London boys in the armed forces overseas.

But its place in history is assured. Its spirit will never die.



See how they run!..and pull back from frontal fight, even with odds of more than a hundred to one. (left). And still they run (above) when faced with a handful of police. And (below) the contrasting image of the disciplined Blackshirts, as they marched westward along the Embankment. Within two weeks, they were to return to East London to the acclaim of the real East Londoners.



..enraged the real Eastenders and they took MOSLEY TO THEIR HEARTS

Waiting for Mosley

A week later came the moment of truth. Through the backstreets of East London the rumour spread like a forest fire that MOSLEY had said that within a fortnight he would march at the head of his Blackshirts through East London, and the press had described the tension and excitement as the late autumn nights brought the first hint of winter.

REDS 'VICTORY' MARCH FIASCO

On Sunday October 11th, the communists and their allies held a 'victory' march through East London, which turned into a fiasco. Led by police through the back streets, they nevertheless had to cross main thoroughfares where they were met by the real East Londoners, whose roars of derision and mocking laughter drowned the discordant blare of the Reds' bands, and the resounding shouts for MOSLEY from thousands of lips mocked their pathetic attempts to sing the International as they shuffled off to a quick dispersal. There was no violence. They were just laughed off the streets in good old British way, and East London was reclaimed for the British. They had initiated mob law against the people of East London, and had sparked off a great surge of support for MOSLEY and his Blackshirts throughout East London.

And in the second week after his so-called defeat, they turned out in their thousands to support MOSLEY, and to take part in one of the greatest Blackshirt demonstrations seen. Rallied by word of mouth, MOSLEY turned up in Victoria Park Square, Bethnal Green, and spoke to a cheering crowd packed from end to end, and afterwards led a march to Salmon Lane, Limehouse, where he again was heard by a crowd of many thousands, with very few uniformed Blackshirts present.

The march had been banned, but when MOSLEY said he was going to walk to Limehouse, and most likely the crowd would follow, as they

did, the police withdrew the ban, and the great march began, followed by some of the most extraordinary sights ever seen in East London.

Along the three mile route, boys, young men, old men, grandmothers, welcomed MOSLEY with "GOOD OLD MOSLEY", and "HAIL MOSLEY-WHITE MAN" from the streets, the doors, the windows, and some had quickly found small Union Jacks to demonstrate their support.

"THEY TRIED TO STOP US" said MOSLEY at Limehouse. "THEY SAID WE WOULD NOT PASS - BUT YOU ARE SEEING TONIGHT THAT WE SHALL PASS. BRITAIN BELONGS TO US BRITONS - AND WE ARE GOING TO SEE THAT WE GET IT BACK."

POLICE REPORT CONFIRMS MOSLEY SUPPORT

THIS report, filed a month after the events of October 4th 1936, and on view at the Public Record Office, leaves no doubt of the true picture of the support for MOSLEY in East London before the war. It confirms to the hilt what we in BRITISH UNION have always known, and what is stated in this issue of 'COMRADE'. The mass of the British people never knew because they were never told. It was just not reported. Those who controlled press and radio effected a censorship on BRITISH UNION more severe than Government control in times of war.

Going to those lengths to defeat a man and a movement, should persuade any reasonable person to pursue the whole area of falsehood that was built up against MOSLEY and BRITISH UNION. Honest men might quite easily conclude that, perhaps, MOSLEY WAS RIGHT.

Special Branch Report MEPOL 2/3043:

The general cry...that the entire population of East London had risen against Mosley and had declared that he and his followers should not pass, and that they did not pass 'owing to the solid front presented by the workers of East London.' This statement is, however, far from reflecting accurately the state of affairs..... There is abundant evidence that the Fascist movement has been steadily gaining ground in many parts of East London and has strong support in such districts as Stepney, Shoreditch, Bethnal Green, Hackney and Bow.

There can be no doubt that the unruly element in the crowd.... was very largely Communist-inspired. A number of well-known active communists were seen at, or near, points where actual disorder occurred.

While attempts by the Communist Party to raise enthusiasm over the 'Fascist defeat' were comparative failures, the BUF, during the week following the banning of their march conducted the most successful series of meetings since the beginning of the movement. In Stepney, Shoreditch, Bethnal Green, Stoke Newington, and Limehouse, crowds estimated at several thousands of people (the highest being 12,000) assembled and accorded the speakers an enthusiastic reception; opposition was either non-existent or negligible and no disorder took place. On 11 October, Sir O. Mosley addressed a meeting of 12,000 at Victoria Park Square, and was enthusiastically received, later marching at the head of the procession to Salmon Lane, Limehouse, without opposition or disorder. On the first he again addressed a meeting at Aske Street, Shoreditch, where he received similar treatment.

In contrast, much opposition has been displayed at meetings held by the Communist movement's speakers. On several occasions meetings of the Young Communist League have been accorded an antagonistic reception in different parts of East London; it has been necessary for the police to close some meetings to prevent breaches of the peace; on other occasions meetings of anti-fascist bodies have been abandoned owing to lack of support.

Briefly, a definite pro-fascist feeling has manifested itself throughout the districts mentioned since the events of 4th October...It is reliably reported that the London membership has increased by 2,000.



THEY VOTED BLACKSHIRT

6 months after the Red Riots, Eastenders gave their answer to those who had invaded their streets, and the politicians and press who were still closing their eyes to the true position in East London.

For they gave Blackshirt candidates an average of 18 per cent of the votes in Limehouse, Shoreditch and Bethnal Green—who won 23 per cent. In the very boroughs where the Blackshirts were to have held their march, and where MOSLEY was to have spoken on October 4th, and who had allegedly 'risen' against them, they had shown by their votes—and this was a vote only for the older householders, that as ever, Eastenders knew full well how to choose, and how to stand by their friends.

"GOOD OLD MOSLEY" Cheering crowd at Limehouse



Market traders for MOSLEY in Bethnal Green

THE 'DECLINE' THAT NEVER WAS

"After their 'defeat' of October 4th 1936, and the subsequent Public Order Act, aimed at MOSLEY making the wearing of the Blackshirt illegal, MOSLEY and his movement lost all support and went into decline". Standard parrot-like utterance of the press pundits and motivated 'historians'.

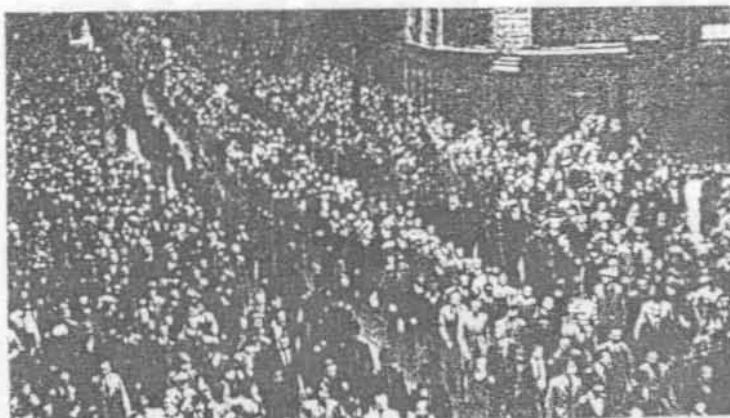
WE NAIL THE LIE!

THE banning of political uniforms came at a time when the 'Black-shirt' had served its purpose-and served it well. Under that honoured vestment, youth and age, rich and poor, artisan and intellectual marched, and in their proud and dedicated crusade had achieved a classless brotherhood such as had not come before. They had faced the challenge of the Marxist mobs, armed only with hand and fist, and won the battle of the streets. They brought back free speech to England.

1937



May 2nd, 1937..British Union May Day March from Lissonhouse to Victoria Park Square, Bethnal Green, where Mosley spoke to a crowd of many thousands. It was the first organised march since the banning of the 'Blackshirt' and the largest held by British Union. Mosley is seen saluting the local people at the start of the march which was held through the area where the residents had 'risen against him' in 1936.



October 3rd, 1937..British Union's 5th Anniversary March from Westminster to Bermondsey with a turn-out fifty per cent higher than any previous march.

1938



July 28th 1938...The culmination of the month-long 'Britain First' Campaign at Ridley Road, Dalston. 20 large marches to meetings where Mosley spoke to an estimated quarter-of-a-million people in almost every area of London. In view of the total absence of organised opposition it appeared that the Communists had finally admitted defeat.



1938 saw a huge increase in the numbers of women on the march, and the formation of the Woman's Drum Corps.

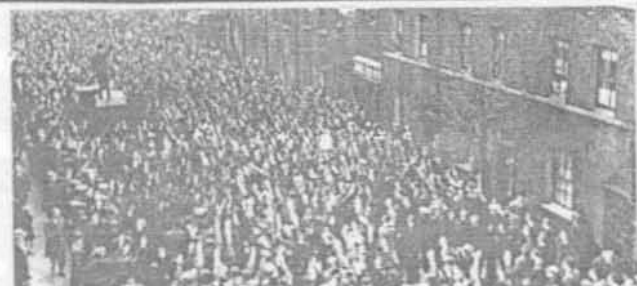


The beat of the drum of British Union's Drum Corps was increasingly heard throughout East London as more and more young men joined the mass Movement.

1939



June 16th, 1939..30,000 heard Mosley at Earls Court Exhibition Hall - the largest political indoor meeting ever held in the world. No other party had dared to use this Hall, and the success in filling it broke the press boycott.



November 19th, 1939..Hereford Street, Bethnal Green. The war had been going nearly three months and at this mass meeting, and every hand was raised when Mosley asked them to vote for "We Demand Peace".

1940



May 5th, 1940, Victoria Park Square, Bethnal Green. The Final Fight.

Within 3 weeks, MOSLEY's voice was silenced. He and his comrades jailed. Britain was to gain an end that was called victory. Forty years later we who are left might say.. "But who has won".

'One of the greatest days in the Movement's history'

OLD BLACKSHIRTS REMEMBER

George Dunlop and I shared the running of **LIMEHOUSE** Branch, which was in Essian Street, writes **ARTHUR MASON** from Australia. A large room over stables, near Salmon Lane, one of the streets where **MOSLEY** was to speak.

We were rather a new branch, but had made more progress in a short time than any other, and were responsible for 'holding the pitch', an exercise which went on for seven days before October 4th. We had **George, Duke Pile**, and many other 'odd speakers' who got up and got going every time the Reds approached to try and take over. By the end, some speakers were reading their speech from the back of bus tickets! A great number of our members were unemployed and lived in our large room for a week, so we had the numbers together at night, moving to and from pitch and headquarters to hold off the opposition when they raided in the late hours. It was tough at times, but we won.

Sunday was a tense day, and led by **TEDDY BROWN** who had slept in my bed in daytime for a week, several hundred members and supporters made their way to Stepney Green underground for Royal Mint Street, and as we left the tube, the first out were attacked by hundreds of Reds wielding clubs with barb-wire attached. Several of our lads including **TOMMY MORAN**, caught it, but Tommy put down about a dozen with his fists before going down from a blow from behind. Nevertheless we managed to fight our way through and join our comrades on parade.



'In two days we enrolled 600'

After we left Trafalgar Square, our branch arrived back at Essian Street to find people lining up to join, and in the next two days we enrolled 600. Shortly after, the branch won £100 presented by **O.M.** for the fastest growing membership.

October 4th, 1936 stood out in the minds of those fine lads that are gone, and those that still remain, as one of the greatest days in the Movement's history.

I would not have missed it for anything.

JOHN CHARNLEY, former **HULL** District Leader takes up the story.

There never was a Battle of Cable Street, unless it was the mild effort of the police to prevent the erection of barriers on the route of our proposed march. Peter Whittam and I had taken two parties of Blackshirts from Hull and Leeds travelling overnight in one of Bedford trucks we nick-named 'agony wagons'. When we arrived, a street fight was already in progress. (See page 2)

'We won the scrimmage'

We won that scrimmage and eventually made our way to the main assembly point. It has always surprised me that in the heat of battle fear is seldom experienced, but the example and sheer guts of **TOMMY MORAN** on that occasion is an event which never loses its clarity. He was a great fighter, and on such occasions was a source of inspiration.

For the 17 yr old **JOHNNY CHRISTIAN**, it really was a 'baptism of fire', for it was his first Blackshirt march, and the first time he had seen his Leader.he writes:

I had been in London only six weeks, having spent the previous three years as a lone semi-active Blackshirt in a small Lancashire village. I had joined the BUF at 14...said I was 16!

On the day-to Tower Hill by underground, with a group of my new comrades from Clapham Branch, we landed a coach packed with reds bound for the same destination. Much abuse and fighting talk but they would not take us on—probably because they only outnumbered us by about three to one.

On arrival there were Blackshirts every-

where, and as we lined up, along the ranks came the head-banded, bloody, smiling **TOMMY MORAN** who I knew slightly from the North, and with him, out of uniform, Bethnal Green's Blackshirt coalman, **'PATTY' FIELDS**, who made some joke on Tommy's appearance.

After the Leader's inspection, the march westwards, and the dismissal, many of us made our way to HQ in St. Smith Street where **MOSLEY** appeared at an upstairs window.

"We never surrender," he said. "We shall triumph over the old parties of corruption because our faith is greater than their faith, our will stronger than their will, and within us is the flame that shall light this country and shall later light this world".

It was no surprise to me that Tommy, as I learned later, had downed so many opponents, both before and after his injury. His skill and courage in such out-numbered battles—the normal chosen practice of our courageous Red opposition—was legendary. He was in fact very light on his feet for his weight, and it was a picture to see him walk into a crowd of attackers, as if marching on parade, with swinging arms; except that each time his arm seemed to come up a little higher, reaching shoulder height without effort, and each time a body would fly away with great force. He would go through them like a knife, then turn around and repeat the performance.

'the tough but gentle Tommy'

In later years I grew to know Tommy well and I feel he was one of those earliest Blackshirts whose whole health suffered permanently by the later war-time imprisonment, and those that knew him will always remember the tough but gentle Tommy with deep affection.

PAT O'DONEGAN, former **SHOREHITCH** Blackshirt, who received minor injuries when attacked going to the march says that....

The memory of 50 years ago dim with time but anger at being denied our right to march through streets previously traversed freely by East End members and supporters of **BRITISH UNION** has never abated.

The area of assembly and the planned route of the march were not particularly Jewish areas, but through districts that were suffering much unemployment and poverty, and the "bloody Sunday" of Communist coinage might well have been bloody in fact, but for **OSWALD MOSLEY**'s lawful compliance with the police order to call off the march; for the mood of the Blackshirts would have taken them through the barricades with their bare fists.

Those few of us who remember that October 4th remember it with pride, as we do the Leader who still marches in spirit with us.

FRED SHEPHERD, a young Blackshirt Cadet recalls helping **SHOREHITCH** Branch 'hold the pitch' at **ASKE STREET**, where the Leader was to speak.When the news came through that the March and meeting had been banned, we had an impromptu march to Victoria Park Square, Bethnal Green, another speaking point, where there was a large crowd. Blackshirt discipline ensured that the crowd ultimately dispersed in good order, although feelings were running high.

FRED BAILEY, though only a schoolboy, recalls helping Bethnal Green Blackshirts 'hold the pitch' at **STAFFORD ROAD, BOW**.I had hoped to see my father (former Labour party stalwart turned to Mosley Jack Bailey) proudly marching to the meeting with the Blackshirt column.

Driving in Cable Street recently with my 15 yr old grandson, he casually told me that he had learned all about it at school. Asked to explain himself he said that it was here that the workers of East London defeated Mosley and his Blackshirts. Here it was that East Londoners massed in their thousands to stop Mosley and his Blackshirts.

I said I would tell him the true story and I told him of the left wing rabble and imported thugs, and the police banning of a legal march, and Mosley's adherence to the law. And how between them, what they had achieved was to stop English men and women marching in their own streets.

The same men who 20 years earlier had been marching through the fields of Flanders, with every medal of distinction won for bravery, and the same younger men who three years later were to fight and die in another war, which they had tried to prevent.

INVESTIGATIVE JOURNALISM ?

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH

Editor Bans O.M. Ad.. Then 'discovers' Friends of O.M. !

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1986

Christian's soldiers march onward—into fascist history

By Kim Fletcher Home Affairs Correspondent

NEXT month, at a private function in a London hotel, 100 stalwarts of British fascism will rise to toast their late leader, Sir Oswald Mosley, and to salute his widow, their guest of honour, Diana.

Their annual dinner, at an address they choose proudly not to disclose, is the biggest social event in the calendar of the Friends of Oswald Mosley. The organisation claims it has an increasing membership, despite the declining number of men alive today who marched behind Mosley in the Blackshirt uniform of the British Union of Fascists.

But observers who monitor the activities of fascist groups in Britain believe the Friends of Oswald Mosley present little threat in the 1980s, with their idealism rooted in the past and their main ambition to revive the dubious glories of their movement in the 1930s.

Some members still own the uniforms banned under the Public Order Act of 1936, though it is unlikely they will wear them when they meet to avoid embarrassing the hotel.

But on a night when veteran fascists revive their memories of the 1930s, of pamphletting, rallying, kicking Communists and beating Jews, they expect to rehearse the anthems they sang in their youth.

Historians believe the British Union of Fascists had as many as 10,000 paid members at the height of its popularity. Mosley himself, when his party was proscribed in 1940, claimed 500,000 were close supporters.

Forty-six years later a four-page news sheet keeps old Blackshirts in touch. "Comrade", which kindles memories of the Mosley movement in the 1930s, is edited and largely written, it seems, by John Christian.

"John Christian" is John Warburton, a semi-retired South London journalist who explains that he would rather not be quoted under his real name for fear of late night phone calls.

"The Friends of Oswald Mosley are politically non-active," says Warburton/Christian. "They are more or less an old comrades' association which is increasing quite fast as old Blackshirts who have disappeared from sight all over the world in the last 30 years are making contact."

"The organisation has more or less two allied objects—to get old members together in a form of an old comrades' association and to do some revisionism where we can. We believe that the history of the old days is a little sorry."

With these ends in mind, obituaries of old members (including anecdotes about the old days) are being resurrected and the patriotic nature of the Blackshirts emphasised—that, far from being potential traitors, many fought and died for Britain during the 1939-45 War.

Warburton, who says the organisation now has "several hundred" members, also does his bit for the Mosley image elsewhere. A long letter from John Christian to a paper in Newcastle, seeks to refute the

popularly-held view that the 1936 "Battle of Cable Street" (when a Blackshirt procession in London's East End was put to flight) marked the decline of Mosley's influence.

Warburton, who joined the Blackshirts in 1933 and told them he was two years older than his 14 years, remembers the days of marches, meetings and demonstrations with pride. The Mosleyites were not against the Jews until the Jews were against them, he argues.

Not all the organisation's members are at retirement age. The youngest, says Warburton, are probably about 30, disciples from the 1960s when Mosley made his last attempts to revive fascist fortunes in Britain.

Whatever hopes for fascism some members may still harbour, the organisation is not viewed with concern by the anti-fascist campaigners of today.

The Mosleyite movement is dead, although it is as well to be cautious about its adherents' attempts to rewrite history, argues Gerry Gable, of the anti-fascist magazine, *Searchlight*.

He sees the threat today coming from parties like the National Front, the British National Party and the British Movement. None of them now



Taking the salute: Mosley

appears to hold any electoral ambitions but all have violent men among their followers.

"While they were trying to be respectable the parties didn't encourage race attacks," says Gable. "Now they've got nothing to lose."

He estimates that the fascist groups around today can claim as many as 8,000 followers, loosely based by the lowest, cross-party common denominator—racial hatred.

"We have never said that fascists could come to power in this country," says Gable. "But they are a cancer in society causing tremendous grief and destabilisation and with so many unemployed they have a situation they can feed on."

1940 Ascot Concentration Camp

ARMISTICE DAY and the LEADER'S BIRTHDAY

AN Armistice Day parade of Service and Ex-Service men was arranged by JOHN WYNN, an officer and Pilot of the 1914/18 war. Numbers of men had sent home for their medal ribbons, and when it took place, the utter stupidity of 188 was made more apparent than ever.

More than one third of the British population of Ascot were on the parade. They included Admirals, Commanders, Colonels, Majors, Captains, Squadron-Leaders and many junior officers and N.C.O.'s, both of this war and the last. The ribbons were a sight and included a D.S.O., D.F.C., and many D.C.M.'s, and M.C.'s. There were numbers of 1914/15 Stars, many with the Mons Rosette. At least two Long Service Medals, and last but by no means least, grand old 'POP' WILLIAMS from Gillingham, Kent, who was a proud man indeed to be an 188 in the company of his three sons.

'his birthday always a special significance'

Five days later it was the 44th birthday of our Leader. This called for a really special celebration.

To us, his birthday always had a special significance, and because he was not with us to celebrate in the conventional manner, it made us all the more determined not to forget, in the midst of our own petty troubles, what the 16th has meant, and will mean to us Blackshirts, who see in him the symbol of a rising generation. And a MAN!

Proud to be Blackshirts

The concert hall at P.O.W. 7 was the meeting place of all the Blackshirts in the camp, 230 of them and every man jack right proud to be still a Blackshirt.

The surroundings, and even the food itself was of secondary importance. We met together—we Blackshirts (whose shirts were indeed black in more senses than one). We met simply to REMEMBER.

And so, at 7.0 clock in the evening of the 16th, we filed in and filled the five long tables. No class consciousness here, for company directors sat with errand boys, and National Inspectors sat beside members, and one could feel the unity and companionship, as we jostled each other in good-natured raillery.

There was no democratic procedure of an opening speech. We saw WATTS place a few hefty bangs on the strongest part of the table with a murderous looking piece of fencing. We saw with dismay, the tin cans jump, and our pieces of toast slither around the plates. "Gentlemen—we will say grace". A hush of expectancy, for we knew

our Charlie. "GET ON WITH IT!". And get on with it we did. The toast disappeared and the prunes, custard and pies followed one another in quick succession.

'with our tin-cans held high we toasted our Leader'

The tea came around, and with our tin-cans held high we toasted our Leader. As the cans were raised, a rustle of curtains turned our gaze towards the stage, and a portrait of the Leader came into view, drawn with life-like clarity on a black-out board, with a cut-out of the Flash & Circle below. No picture, sketch or photograph has ever brought forth a more spontaneous burst of cheering than that which echoed and re-echoed throughout the building that night.

'that well known jaw and fighting fist'

As the cheering rose and fell we could see those affected by the simple sincerity of it all gazing at that board as though through a mist. Those not present can possibly understand the emotions with which those 230 throats roared out their innermost feelings. It was as if months of confinement and petty persecution had pent up and damaged our spirit until it could be held no longer, and that simple portrait was the signal to give voice to that spiritual allegiance which those of the old parties can never know. We saw no lifeless portrait, but a living thing becoming more animated and vibrant with emotion as wave after wave of cheering, banging and stamping of feet broke around us and that plain wooden chair at the head of the table; how it symbolised the wish of every one of us. That the only empty chair in the hall would respond in our minds and become filled, as the portrait was filled, with the spirit of the evening, and hold the man who can invoke in us such enthusiasm. We saw that well known jaw and fighting fist: we caught the glint of fire in the eyes, and above the clamour we seemed to hear that deep-throated "Brother Blackshirts".... herald the opening of a fighting speech, and the cheering died away. The portrait became a lifeless sketch once more, yet as our thoughts harked back to those not with us, our own troubles seemed to melt into insignificance and another burst of cheering rent the air; we glanced again at the portrait of our Leader, and the fighting jaw came out a little further and the massive fist seemed more tightly clenched. The room, the tables and those on either side of us swam round and around as we thought of what others were suffering because they believe in a cause....

In Memoriam

"Hark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages."

BAILEY Dennis, BRITISH UNION Cadet, Clapham Branch, age 16, adopted son of W.H. Symes, B.U. N/Inspector. In October 1938 from accident with 31st A.A. Coy. R.E. during Czech crisis.

DODS C.W. 'Bill', South Croydon BRITISH UNION and Sydenham UNION MOVEMENT. At Sidmouth, October 12th, 1984

GOWING Horace, Derby BRITISH UNION. In November 1949 at age of 30 from TB contracted during detention at Walton Jail & Ascot Concentration Camp. On release founder of Sons of St. George in Derby maintaining high patriotic principles of British Union.

WHITE Lieutenant Albert Edward, RNVR, and Leicester BRITISH UNION, killed in action HM trawler "Northern Rover" 5th November, 1939.

ARMISTICE DAY is condensed from the personal memoirs of the late CHARLIE WATTS, Camp Leader at Ascot.

THE LEADER'S BIRTHDAY from a report by CLEM HILL, a young Hendon Blackshirt who contracted TB and died shortly after his release.



OLD COMRADES

WELCOME to 'new' old comrades....

DENIS GOURDON writes "in support of 'COMRADE' and the objectives of the 'Friends'—a living memory of our great Leader and his inspiring message". DENIS was one of the very young 188 detainees, and was arrested while serving in the Royal Artillery shortly after returning from DUNKERK, celebrating his 21st birthday in PEELE Concentration Camp, I.O.M.

JOHN MURRAY, London, on seeing COMRADE for the first time. "I joined BUF in April 1933, at Great George Street, when NHQ was housed on one floor (the second, I believe; the floor below occupied by Federation of Women Liberals). There was a concerted Press boycott at the time which was only broken with our first march through Central London a month or two later (to the strains of a Territorial Army band, wearing our uniform, and playing a very limited repertoire of marches, the only one I can recall being 'The March of the Vagabonds' from the musical 'The Vagabond King', about the French poet Francois Villon; needless to say we very soon had our own words to this tune: 'Sons of British Soil....') That was the day on which I first heard OM speak and from that moment I was his man (age 15). He was unique. There was none like him."

John Murray later joined the French Foreign Legion and served with the Free French in Africa during the war.

'THE SPIRIT LIVES'

MRS. G. WALSH nee Tibiter, Essex, former LIMEHOUSE, BU, (as was her mother who died in 1973, age 101) who joined two weeks before Oct. 4th, 1936, as a non-active member "but the effects of that day, made me a very active member". She saw the red mob "roll marbles under horses' feet, stuff broken glass up their noses". She had expected to see it reported in the press, "instead, I saw I had been mistaken. It was BRITISH UNION members and supporters responsible for these acts."

For me the years that followed were the finest of my life. We knew no class barriers, and always the courage and strength of our Leader was before us to help us through.

We had a saying in those days. "Once a Blackshirt always a Blackshirt", and although in my late seventies, this will always be true till my last breath. I am a Blackshirt. My most treasured possession was a silver service badge pinned on me by the Leader himself, which unfortunately was lost when we were bombed during the Battle of Britain, but one does not need badges to remember, the greatest of all men, SIR OSWALD MOSLEY."

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH

The Personal Column Greeting the Editor did not like....he banned it

"Greetings to all old Blackshirts on Anniversary of British Union Foundation, October 1st, 1932 Friends of O.M.."

Friends of O.M.

Commemoration Dinner
Sat 15th November 1986

COMRADE

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF O.M.

NO.5

MARCH 1987



HOME OFFICE — POLITICAL SKULDUGGERY or SOVIET KGB "MOLES" ?

MISSING FILES SCANDAL

THOSE THAT ESCAPED THE NET

There are only 3 files of BRITISH UNION members that were nationally known figures in the 18 released. Dir/Gen N. FRANCIS HAWKINS, Asst. D/G Capt. B. D. E. DUNOVAN, and National Admin. Officer H. McKECHNIE. The remainder, which include 5 ex-members, were little known or unknown figures in the Movement, and there is just one woman. So all the women imprisoned in Holloway are also 'lost'. 'Lost' are all the files of those who were 'household' names in the Movement, and those in public life and in the Services. The Area Organisers, the District Inspectors, and District Leaders, speakers, and many Parliamentary Candidates. How did the 18 — 'survivors of the lost Blackshirt Battalion' escape the net ?

SECRET documents covering the bulk of MOSLEY's supporters who suffered wartime detention under the infamous Defence Regulation 18B, 98 per cent of the total interned and never charged with any offence, are unlikely ever to be available for viewing at the Public Record Office. For an amazing and most disturbing reason.

ALL THEIR SECRET FILES — WELL OVER 700 — HAVE "GONE MISSING" !

This unprecedented situation, uncovered by investigations over the last few weeks into what was initially thought to be administrative delay, must surely instigate an inquiry by the Government and the Security Services.

'30 year rule'

The Public Record Act of 1958 gave the British public the statutory right of access to official archives, and Government departments have a duty imposed on them of general release, the norm being, since 1967, of a 30 year closure, apart from documents withheld under special provisions for which time extensions are requested, usually when claims of national security is said to be involved, or for other "sensitive reasons".

There were some 750 BRITISH UNION members arrested and incarcerated for years without charge or trial in British prisons and concentration camps, a large number of them ex - service men of the first war, and young men

By JOHN CHRISTIAN

who after their release were to fight and die in the second war. Others died within a few years from disease originating in the prison camps, and for many their lives were destroyed.

Anticipating administrative problems as the reason for the delay in the release of the remaining files, I approached the Home Office, who are responsible for the preservation, selection, and release of their own secret documents.

A Home Office spokesman stated that all 18B files once held by them had gone to the Public Records Office.

"We have no further 18B files in our possession, excluding the odd one that might trickle through"

Although it was pointed out that we

were talking about over 700 personal files, the Home Office Departmental Record Officer has confirmed by letter that "Following a commitment made by the Home Secretary in the House of Commons on 1 December 1983, the remaining 18B cases were transferred to the Public Record Office in early 1986 and some were made available for immediate public inspection.and there are no plans for the accelerated opening of papers already held at the Public Record Office"

Investigation at the PRO reveals that at the most there are about 100 'closed' files relating to 18B, among which there are unlikely to be more than an odd detainee's file.

A spokesman at the PRO has, on three occasions rejected the Home Office assertion when informed of the number of cases involved, and agreed that the implications were "most disturbing".

So what is the Home Office playing at ? Where are the several hundred files ? Do they still exist or have they been destroyed ?

Are we to believe that some secret decision has been made to contravene an Act of Parliament for 'sensitive' political reasons on matters going back to 1940 ?

It is true that the evidence in the few files that have been released is not to the liking of the Establishment, and other areas of historical MOSLEY antagonism. It is also true that the evidence generally proves to the hilt that the internment of his supporters, and he himself, was for one reason only. "Control was exercised over them", as it was put, so that their voice be silenced, so adequately exposed in the released file of CHARLIE WATTS

So what is so sensitive in those files that they have to disappear ? More sensitive than the secrets of the Suez fiasco of 1956 released in January. More sensitive than all the other secret documents, including secret Cabinet papers, that have been released over the past decade.

Could it be that it was believed that somewhere in the thousands of documents contained in the files, there was evidence so explosive of uncovered KGB penetration of the Security Services, that this mass 'disappearance' of the files became a necessity, and was undertaken by a top 'mole' in the Home Office ?

* → Page 2



'Gallant Keller'
Page 5 →

Lady Mosley at
Commemoration
Dinner → Page 4

"Within the conventions of the Union in its most Nationalistic aspects, WATTS can be considered loyal, but his unswerving devotion to the Union and his apparent power of attracting other people to share his views, makes it difficult to suppose that his release, even on conditions, would be devoid of risk to our national security and I feel that the order for detention must be maintained"

File HO/45/25702 C.F. Watts. Public Record Office.

* Missing Files

From the 'confessions' of Anthony Blunt we know of the heavy KGB penetration over many years of our Security Services, to the extent that they were effectively organised in the interests of Soviet Russia, and under their control.

Should we therefore look into this area to pursue the 'mystery of the missing secret files'?

In 1940, ANTHONY BLUNT, member in the 1930's of the predominately communist and homosexual so-called cultural elitists, the Apostles, was set up in MI5 - how and why has never been satisfactorily told, one of his duties being the surveillance of selected suspects, which included MOSLEY and his BRITISH UNION.

At the same time, from their PO Box 500 at Blenheim Palace, MI5's F Division, headed by ROGER HOLLIS, later to be knighted, and become MI5 Director, had a similar briefing. He was assisted by Jewish recruit and former journalist GRAHAM MITCHELL, who was later to become Deputy Director.

It is widely believed by many loyal Service officers, including ex-spy catcher PETER WRIGHT in Australia and other observers, that Hollis was a top Soviet 'mole', under KGB control for 30 years.

Riddled with Soviet agents

Mitchell, who is said to have advised CHURCHILL to detain the Mosley's in 1940, was another suspect in the internal investigations to find the top 'mole', after KGB defector ANATOLY GOLITSYN claimed Western intelligence agencies were riddled with long-term Soviet penetration agents.

Mitchell, who retired prematurely during the investigations in 1963, has, as we go to press, been named as the real 'fifth' man by spies writer NIGEL WEST in a new book.

What is known to be fact, is that there was a top traitor at Blenheim who was controlled by top Soviet agent RUTH KUCZYNSKY, alias URSULA BEURTON, codenamed SONIA, who arrived in Oxford at the same time Hollis's MI5 section arrived at nearby Blenheim, and who was later to be the controller of atom spy KLAUS FUCHS at Banbury.

Holder of Stalin's Order of the Red Banner, she was married to a KGB agent, and was the former lover of top Soviet master-spy RICHARD SORGE when both were in Shanghai in the early 1930's, and where Hollis at that time was working for the British American Tobacco Company.

Home Office 'moles'

But it is not just the Intelligence Services that have been successfully penetrated. There have been long suspicions of Soviet penetration of the Home Office, and in fact a number of 'moles', including top civil servants, were uncovered in the 1960's, following leads from Blunt.

Was this the time of the 'lost' files?

Or do they still exist?

Nothing short of a top-level enquiry into the loss of these secret files, and of Soviet penetration of the Home Office is now essential. It must be top Government priority.

MOSLEY's UNCHANGING 1918 - MESSAGE - 1987

WITH all the profound changes that have taken place in British society in the course of the Twentieth Century it is hardly surprising that many British politicians have frequently had to eat their word. But from the time Oswald Mosley published his first programme at the age of 22 in his 1918 Election Address there has been a remarkable consistency in his basic ideas. This is demonstrated by the following extracts and comments.

* * * * *

by **PETER MARCY**

INDUSTRY. A high standard of living to be achieved by means of a minimum wage and reduced hours, with high production based on increased efficiency and better industrial organisation.

Comment: Mosley realised that a stable society would only come about if everyone was provided with a livable income. This led to the proposal that workers, employers, consumers, employers federations and trades unions should participate in an agreed national plan. But an economy can now operate effectively with only 6% of the population in work, so non-workers will have to be provided with minimum incomes.

TRANSPORT. Public transport and power resources to be controlled and developed by the State.

Comment: It must be remembered that in 1918 these were still privately controlled. Mosley believed that in the Scientific Age state intervention in key economic matters was essential.

LAND. The State to acquire land where necessary in order to provide Ex-Servicemen with the "Three Acres and a Cow" that they had been promised by the politicians.

Comment: In many ways Mosley's policies have always been "Back to the Land", aiming to restore the pre-industrial culture of "Merrie England".

HOUSING. The State to initiate a vast programme of slum clearance and to carry out a large part of the work itself.

Comment: This is still needed, to deal with the jerry-built slums of the post-1945 period, but instead of Council-owned concrete jungles we want houses designed for individuals and owned by individuals.

FISCAL POLICY. The Colonies to be granted Preference on Import Duties. Essential industries to be sheltered from unfair foreign competition. "Dumping" of foreign goods to be stopped.

Comment: All perfectly valid but must now be applied to a European context. Essential raw materials only purchased through bilateral agreements. The insulated European economy will use Tariffs to keep out cheap manufactures from the Third World. Europe to develop its own supplies and substitutes for previously imported raw materials.

Within "Third Force Europe", small-scale craft production in small communities will largely replace large-scale industrial production in cities. Warring sectional interests will be replaced by a sense of common purpose, of union.

ALIENS. Immediate legislation to exclude and repatriate undesirable aliens.

Comment: No further comment necessary!

THE EMPIRE. Complete unity of the British Empire to be promoted.

Comment: The Empire having been destroyed through the criminal folly of Tory and Labour politicians we can only aim for complete European unity.

MOSLEY-A TV FIRST?

IN the long running ban on SIR OSWALD MOSLEY from all forms of mass communication, it is an interesting fact that he was, in all probability, the first politician to be seen on television.

It was in July 1930, then in the Labour



Sir Oswald Mosley in the studio at Covent Garden with John Logie Baird (right) in 1930

Party, that he took part in an experiment at JOHN LOGIE BAIRD's workshop and studio in Covent Garden.

Standing in front of BAIRD's camera, he answered question from an audience gathered at the nearby COLISEUM in St. Martins Lane, the sound and vision coming through television sets placed on the stage of the theatre. Once again, MOSLEY, always ahead of his time, had recognised the worth of this new invention, and used it to put over his policy.

It was to be another 38 years before he was seen again on television. Arising out of a libel action against the BBC, and after LORD JUSTICE PARKER's High Court remark that "Someone who has the ear of the whole nation can say things and the unfortunate subject has no means of answering back in the same medium", the BBC was forced to lift the ban with the screening of a Panorama programme devoted to his life, for which the 'ratings' were more than nine million.

MOSLEY Y...THE MAN



3. by RONALD CREASY

IN the history of mankind, each period is marked by the emergence of great men distinctive for clarity of mind and action; some greater than others but each born to play their part in sustaining the progressive balance essential to the wellbeing of civilization. Such quality is the revelation against inferior men speciously and selfishly deployed against the interests of the people.

The era of the 1930's provided the opportunity for the emergence of the exceptional, dynamic OSWALD MOSLEY, destined to play that part which will sound through the corridors of time as the creative force of the twentieth century. The century in which there was more evolution than the preceding two thousand years.

Explosion of science

Within the vast change in such a short time, the new Leaders, born into the service of its needs, required a far wider expanse of knowledge than those which were part of previous history. Explosion of science, technology and manipulative press button indoctrination rendered tenfold the struggle to achieve and enlighten compared with previous generations. Within this wide expanse, the need of men of unfaltering merit, energy and unquestionable honesty were destined to arise out of the morass of subterfuge encompassing the decline of truth and morality from which the world has recently suffered in deplorable measure.

'Feared his able truths'

The combatant hero of his time, to be undimmed in the proof of the future, OSWALD MOSLEY ceaselessly sacrificed his life for the wise guidance of others in trust of his sagacious and unfaltering leadership. In the surrillity of lesser men who feared his able truths against their chicanery, he carried the surge of those who were quick to follow him, shaping an unanswerable policy which gave new hope and encouragement to the trampled masses suffering from the poverty of misrule. His fight was against motivated decadence and cavernous falsehoods by men in the process of swallowing themselves as adversaries in their inept politics. No weakness was allowed to exist within himself which might falter against the resolutions of his purpose.

He knew the essentials

MOSLEY knew the essentials, shirking no deviation of sound intention; no shrinking from the burdens or struggle of others. Confronting all the knavish tricks of his adversaries, MOSLEY remained aloof, surmounting all shady opposition; his vision constantly in

front, revealing, undaunted. His words precise, his example impeccable. He was the supreme master of the modern cause which he carried in the creative adventure of his psychic life.

In his advanced predictions the genocidal war of 1939 brought the enemy within, throwing away our Empire in a carnage which has brought despair to the Western Hemisphere. Out of the ashes of the final corruptions, a new generation will arise from the suffering and infamy. The inner consciousness of man will automatically turn to the future from the knowledge of the past in which the spirit of MOSLEY will not be forgotten.

His teaching and example is of the quality which endures for ever. It is in direct line with the survival of Nature predisposing selective mankind, a predilection of the future in which the old threads will spring into the immortality destined by the stars in the firmament. The Flame and the Glory to which MOSLEY referred in his memorable speech at London's Albert Hall.

He set the course

Rare metals are thrown on one side, the unalloyed shaped into lasting use; cast and recast for creative benefits in the deployment of our generation and those that follow. Each designed to suit the needs of the times, MOSLEY was as a man standing at the furnace, hammer in hand, beating out the desired pattern within the framework he had already produced to suit the needs of the people. Tides ebb and flow; currents implacably course their way through the oceans. He set the course caught up in motion by others of kindred steel. When the shapeless creeds, the weary rumblings of the materialistic despots of tin composition have floundered into final decay, and those behind the ranks of the media and the power invested in their equivocal bedfellows have faded into their own night, the new dawn will appear. When the people have seen the last cherished structure fallen into ruins, the voice and spirit of MOSLEY will reverberate as of old, for there will be no second choice.

For those who acknowledged him in pride and inspiration, and joined in his sacrifice and dedication, adding vitality to his task, in life or death the breath of imperishable light penetrates the darkness as a beacon for those to come, the inheritors of the mission. Invulnerable, unassailable. His qualities confounded the vindictive spite and animus of his opponents, the pernicious calumny of soured critics.

'Today - tomorrow - eternal'

Truths endure in their own strength succouring mankind through the ages. Inflexible, transcending. They live, never to be eclipsed, as with the indomitable will of MOSLEY. As then, as today, as tomorrow, eternal. All else is pathogenic knavery.

★ Ronald Creasy is former BRITISH UNION District Leader of Eye, Suffolk. In 1938 he was elected to Eye Borough Council.... the first Blackshirt elected councillor.

The MOSLEY Message

ON THE BANNING OF THE BLACKSHIRT

"This faith of ours is held with a passionate force, and any faith which is held by men and women with the force of a religious conviction, any faith which stirs hearts and souls of men as this faith does requires its symbol: requires its outward and visible token, and that symbol is the blackshirt. And so to us this is a symbol of remembrance of our early days of struggle, an outward sign of the faith we hold, and whatever they do to the sign by which we show that faith it lives with us, and that faith will triumph"

'Action' In Spirit with us
30th January 1937..... 30th January 1987



Ronald Creasy
A 1954 portrait by Dutch artist Cor Visor

Search for the Mosley Voice

IT is of deep regret to historians who are well aware of OSWALD MOSLEY's legendary oratorical skills that only two recordings of his voice were ever released during the years of the B.U.F.

The first, dating from April 22nd, 1934, features the First Great Albert Hall meeting where even today the band, chanting, speech and singing are amazingly clear considering the innovative picture discs were on pressed glazed cardboard. The second record, issued in June 1938, was a studio recorded statement on "BRITISH UNION", and on the reverse, a personal message to members, "COMRADES IN STRUGGLE". The strength of MOSLEY's voice comes through but does not make up for on site actuality.



Recording in the 'Thirties'

The problems of recording on location fifty years ago were enormous. The only option in this country was direct out discs. A black shellac covered aluminium record was placed on a disc cutter. A fixed arm worked along a precision metal thread. The needle on the other end was lowered into the rotating shellac and cut a master disc. From this, extracts could be transferred to another disc thus marking a "stamper" for pressing any number of copies. A far cry from the battery operated, solid state, hand held, go anywhere tape machines of today.

The Mosley speech inheritance

"If only" is a fanciful term, but with MOSLEY and BRITISH UNION holding thousands of meetings all over the country during those seven and a half momentous years, what a rich legacy of words would be available to use today "If Only" technology had advanced a little further.

Much research still needs to be undertaken on the MOSLEY speech inheritance. First-hand knowledge may still be available from old Blackshirts to substantiate rumour's that other meetings were covered by sound recordings. It would be useful to have details to commence and collate an archive on the subject.

ROY CUMMINGS

LAUGH WITH MOSLEY!

"The Bishops are very likely to confuse their own opinions with those of the Almighty!"

The COMMEMORATION Dinner



General view of the Commemoration Dinner

An evening to Remember

WHAT a remarkable achievement! So many people. So many faces I had not seen before. So many younger people too. Ordinary sensible people from all walks of life. If I had not seen it myself I would not have believed it possible in 1986. It points to what can be achieved in the future. How the way lies ahead I cannot foresee, but I could feel that 'The Spirit Lives-The Rest will Follow!'

'Spirit of Mosley alive'

In a speech of welcome, 'BIG DAN' HARMSTON told of the first time he saw OSWALD MOSLEY. It was in 1962 at Ridley Road when the Red Gang attacked O.M. on his arrival. Struck to the ground from the assault, and suffering kicks to the body, "I saw this man in his mid 60's get up and land a straight right to the chin of his attacker, sending him to the ground."

Dan was sufficiently impressed by this display of courage, that he went shortly after to hear him speak at an Earls Court street meeting, despite being a "little Englander" at the time. From what he had read and heard in the media, he had expected to hear a torrent of anti-semitic and anti-black abuse. Instead "I heard a perfect analysis of Britain's economic and political problems in terms that ordinary people could understand, and a clear policy for overcoming them". He came away believing that there is no problem under the sun that cannot be solved by an application of logic. In that principle, and political ideals of O.M., still lie Britain's hope for the future.



RONALD CREAKY, former BU District Leader, Epsom, Suffolk, where he was also the first Blackshirt elected councillor, responds to Lady Mosley.

"It's all there" concluded 'BIG DAN'. "In a book called 'MOSLEY-RIGHT OR WRONG'. He reminded those present that FRIENDS of O.M. held its first commemorative meeting some 4 or 5 years ago with about 25 present."

"Tonight, nearly 120 have come from all parts of Britain and the Continent."

The spirit of MOSLEY is as alive today as ever".

The Old....

'By the time you get this letter the Commemoration Dinner will have been held, but at 8 pm that day, your time..8 am Sunday morning here. I will be having a Toast..to...FRIENDS of O.M. and all they stood for, and stand for'.

F.H. Charles New Zealand
Formerly Limehouse, BU.....Kingston UM

....and the New

'Congratulations on the success of the Commemoration Dinner. I enclose a small donation to the cause. I realise this is not much, but it is all I can afford as my only source of income is a Student Grant.'

The Comradeship shown by all was proof indeed that the Spirit of Mosley lives within us all.

It encouraged me in my belief that it is the sacred duty of my generation to hold high and advance the philosophy of O.M. into the 21st century. We of the younger generation can draw no greater inspiration in our struggle than to look at those old Comrades present at the meeting who have held the faith over the decades, despite all personal hardship'.

J.M. Hamilton Coventry

Lady Mosley

REPLYING to the Toast to O.M. and Lady M., Guest of Honour LADY MOSLEY thanked the organisers for inviting her to "such a wonderful evening", and for "that great feeling of love for O.M. that she could feel was present within this room".

Old Comrades not forgotten

GIVING thanks to LADY MOSLEY, veteran Black-shirt RONALD CREAKY, spoke of the greatest tests which SIR OSWALD & LADY MOSLEY surmounted so magnificently, were the days of incarceration. He also had the distinction and honour of being a guest at one of her Majesty's 'hotels'. "That we remained unaltered in such experience - in which LADY MOSLEY is a shining example - is part of the strength and nobility of our great companion in whose immortal spirit our Association was born"

Paying tribute to FRIENDS OF O.M. "It is they who have picked up essential pieces, bringing them together again in comforting recognition. After many years, members living

in various parts of the globe and throughout Britain have been fragmented, apparently forgotten. It has been a great comfort to know they are not, and that all are closely acknowledged by the existence of what this evening represents"

Our Movement and Association had done more to unite City and Country in an understanding comradeship than any other venture in the annals of current history. "The divorced reunited as an important factor in a crumbled civilisation"

Truths live for ever

LADY MOSLEY's "continuing courage has remained undimmed with the years as she stood beside that great man, whose spirit is so much of our own life, remaining closely united with us this evening. We shall continue to go forward in his spirit, so that when we depart as mortals, our steps will not be obliterated in the pattern and sacrifice to which that great soul gave his all for benefit of mankind. He thought and acted for the well-being of a better civilisation. He was one of the greatest advocates of the truth. In the inheritance of his lead, we have lived the truth... spoke with the truth.....will die with the truth. Truths live for ever, lies die with the utterance, while those who expound them become the residuum of a lost cause."

The Rock of ages shall have no cleft for MOSLEY: through him we have been its endurance, the guide eternal".

Maiden Speech

IN a maiden speech on the purpose of FRIENDS OF O.M., which was interrupted by loud, enthusiastic, and prolonged applause, MICHAEL QUINN reminded the audience, not only of the life and spirit of O.M., but of his contribution to philosophical thought he had made through his Doctrine of Higher Forms.

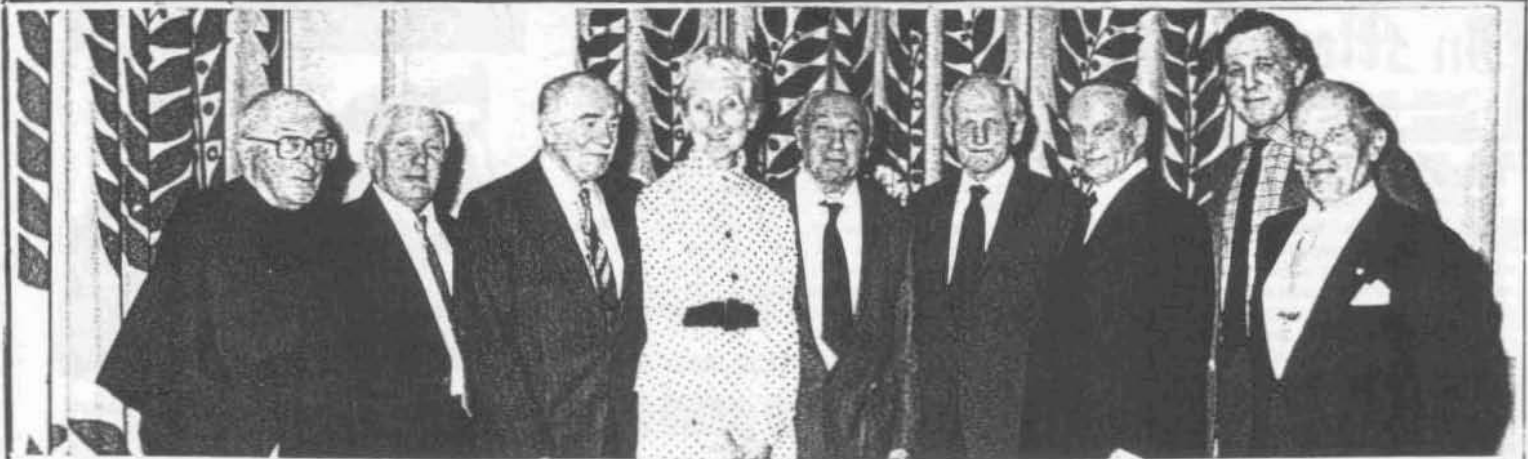
He asked us to reflect on the so-called great politicians of the twentieth century. Could we name one who in power had done anything to arrest the decline of this country into its present state of a Paradise for Rioters, Muggers, Drug Addicts and Disease?

Not one of them was any use at all. Yet they united together to drag MOSLEY down. "Can anyone imagine over 100 people turning up from all over the country to honour the birth-date of Baldwin, Chamberlain, or MacDonald. Or closer to present times, Attlee, Eden or Wilson. Does anyone even commemorate Churchill's birth in this way?"

Yet that is the power that OSWALD MOSLEY has today: the ability six years after his death to fill a room in Central London with people who had come not only to salute a great past, but to show their belief in that spirit for the future".



MICHAEL QUINN, member of F.O.M. Council, and of MOSLEY DIRECTORATE, set up by O.M. in 1966 to run UNION MOVEMENT on his retirement from active politics.



Lady Mosley with some of O.M.'s old supporters. LtoR. Father Brocard Sewell, Sid Bailey, Ernest Keller, Fred Bailey, Ronald Creasy, Mike Quill, Dan Harmston, and Major Edgar Wayman MBE, MC.

Old Comrades introduced

IN a toast to absent friends, JOHN CHRISTIAN read greetings from old Blackshirts throughout the world, many of them unable to be present because of age or infirmity, though with loyalty to MOSLEY undimmed. He also introduced a number of old comrades present for the first time.

MRS. CREASY, not just as a guest of the previous speaker, but as a former Blackshirt Women's District Leader. EDGAR WAYMAN, never a member, but a Mosley supporter for fifty years, as was Father BROCARD SEWELL, the Vice-President of the HENRY WILLIAMSON SOCIETY. As older members knew, Henry was one of Mosley's most loyal supporters. Major Wayman had come over from Germany for the evening, as had former HULL Blackshirt and 188 political prisoner ARTHUR MARSON who has been living there for some thirty years. Blind former Blackshirt STEPHEN BARKER, one-time BRITISH UNION Propaganda Officer for Central Hackney, and member of London Drum Corps, brought from his Southend home by a former young member of UNION MOVEMENT, and a still younger friend of an age that made it unlikely he had ever heard or seen OSWALD MOSLEY. "Six years after his death and here we have three generations of Mosley Men present together to commemorate his birth!"

'The Gallant Keller'

"And last-but certainly not least-one of those who had 'come in from the cold' as a result of the Daily Telegraph so-called exposure of FRIENDS OF O.M. and my activities

ERNEST KELLER, ..not seen since the day he left his 188 concentration camp during the war, and whose name became synonymous with the BRITISH UNION spirit in his days as a young Blackshirt. The 'Gallant Keller' as he became known throughout the Movement when in 1937, then a relatively unknown District Leader of West Will- esden, who had never addressed a big meeting, took over after MOSLEY was knocked unconscious by a stone when starting to speak at an open-air LIV- ERPOOL meeting.

'They dared all for Britain and for Mosley's cause'

"To our younger friends here tonight" said CHRISTIAN, "remember.. Many of your ageing comrades here tonight, were once the young lions who dared all for Britain and for MOSLEY's cause. Such as ERNEST KELLER. This quiet elder gentleman sitting by my side, who when MOSLEY was struck, swiftly mounted the van, and with the missiles still flying, he pointed an accusing finger at the Red mob, lashing them with scorn and turning to the audience who had come to listen 'Look at the foul and snivelling lot! They ask you to give them power to rule. They know

no order now. They prate to you hypocritically of free speech but know only, this ghetto scum, the razor, the half-brick, and the bottle'. Upbraiding them further he indicted them as having no country, honouring no fatherland and owing allegiance to no flag. 'They belonged to the international, bob-tail sweepings of the gutters, who want to drag us to war, not for Britain, but so that the blood-red Soviet Star might hang over every hearth'

'Never forget such men'

As you take up the pursuit of MOS- LEY's high ideals, never forget such men and their selfless devotion to MOSLEY and his cause.

Their acts of courage without a song. The way they lived and fought, their one prize a Greater Britain by struggle and sacrifice, and the honour of walking at MOSLEY's side.

There will be new ways. A synthe- sis of what could have been and what now has to be. But without their ex- ample, even if you scale the command- ing heights of material prosperity: You will have lost".

An evening to remember: and help us on our way. JEREMY WALKER

★ Jeremy Walker is a product of UNION MOVE- MENT, joining 25 years ago at 18. One of that generation to whom we of the old guard of BRITISH UNION pass the torch of the MOSLEY STORY, for they, in turn, to hand on to the younger generations yet to come. JC



AND
HOW
IT
WAS



Left..Mosley trying to evade the shower of bricks which met him on mounting the van to speak. Centre..Keller mounts the van and takes over, as right, the unconscious O.M. is taken to hospital.



We Apologise

For the delay of "Comrade" which was due out in February, but we believed it essential to hold back the issue in order to double check all the facts of our front page story, once we had discovered the apparent dis- appearance of the 188 files. We had approached the Home Office in January for some reasonable explanation for the delay in releasing the files. We at least know now the reason for their delay with their statement, which in fact does not answer the question. Where are the 188 files?

In Memoriam

"Hark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages,

ALLEN, Andrew. Pilot Officer, RAF,.....early British Union member. Died in flying accident near Pulborough, December 1937

BECKETT, Mrs. Joe, Southampton. Wife of former Heavy Weight Champion of England. On 12th December 1952. Like her husband, a loyal member of British Union. Detained under 18B in 1940, she had to share her cell in Holloway Prison under monstrous conditions with her young baby only a few months old. This did not break her faith, and after the War was one of the most loyal members of Union Movement in the Wessex area.

ELAM, Dudley, Receptionist at BU NHQ Sanctuary Buildings despite advanced years. Sudden death December 1948 because of physical breakdown under stress of detention at Stafford Prison in 1940, and despite constant nursing by Mrs. Elam, British Union's Parliamentary Candidate for Northampton, after her release from Holloway Prison later in the war.

FERRIS, Don, Nottingham Branch British Union. Interned 18B, died March 1952 after great service to the Movement.

FRANCIS HAWKINS, Neil..... Mr. General British Union, 1935-1940. Died suddenly December 25th 1950. One of pioneer members of BU. In 1932, as London Organiser, organised successful mass meetings at Albert Hall & Olympia where he was one of the Blackshirts who pursued Red demonstrators into girders of the roof at great personal risk. Detained without charge or trial for 4 years during war, these conditions did not assist his chronic bronchial asthma, bringing about his early death whilst in his forties. Until the very end his loyalty to O.M. was unquestionable.



N. FRANCIS HAWKINS
DIRECTOR GENERAL
BRITISH UNION
1938

HILL W.M. One of earliest members of British Union, who in retirement helped to found Taunton Branch BU. Died January 1938

GRANT of Shoreditch. Died December 1948. British Union veteran of Shoreditch Branch, father of family of BU supporters, who stood up for his principles before, during and after the War.

STEELE, Captain Charles H. British Union Parliamentary Candidate, Guildford. Died February 1939 after injury by brick thrown at Blackshirt march.

WARBURTON Ned..... New Party and British Union London and Manchester branches. Lost eye by brick in 'battle of Stockton-on-Tees, September, 1933. War service Pioneer Corps. Mentioned in despatches.

One of group of officers secretly posted to Denmark and Germany in last weeks of war to organise surrendered intact German Army units to prepare them fight against possibly advancing Soviet Red Army. Died December 31st, 1984.



NED WARBURTON
1933

'WE IN IT SHALL BE
REMEMBERED.....
WE BAND OF BROTHERS'

ALBERT COATES, Surrey, an active member after the war in MOSLEY BOOK CLUB, and early UNION MOVEMENT. "My mother, herself of Irish Catholic origins, was always disgusted at the appalling treatment meted out to O.M. in 1940, and held Herbert Morrison with particular loathing. Both she and my father had always held MOSLEY in high esteem since a mass meeting was held outside our house in Aske Street, Hoxton in the mid-thirties. He once described Britain-post war- as the Nation with the Oedipus Complex. What can describe it now—so bent it is on the road to racial self-destruction. It defies all comprehension, and the ultimate horror can only be imagined....

"The blood weeps from my heart, when I
do shape,
In forms imaginary, th' unguided days
And rotten times, that you shall look
upon
When I am sleeping with my ancestors"

So Shakespeare put these words into the speech of Henry IV, and it could be quoted today by we of an older generation to new generations of Britons. Such catastrophic changes have overwhelmed our country since those days, one can hardly bring the horror of it to one's consciousness. It is simply incredible that such a disaster was allowed to occur.



BRITISH UNION
ROLL OF HONOUR



BURNESHAU Dennis P. Flight Sergeant VR RAF 156 Squadron, Member Brighton Branch BU, died on flying operations January 3rd, 1944. Name inscribed on Runnymede Memorial.

OBITUARY

IT is with deep sorrow that we announce the death on November 27th, from a terminal illness courageously borne, of ROSE, wife of our old comrade PATRICK O'DONOGAN, those who attended the UNION MOVEMENT dinners at Victoria in the early 1960's will remember the particular accent of the Austrian born Rose, as she spoke of the happiness she had found in her English home.

The following lines of this obituary are from a letter of thanks from PAT for use in "COMRADE" for the flowers sent by Friends of O.M., and he has kindly granted permission for their use.

'COMRADE', a name that at first I did not like, yet my grief has brought back many memories, one of which was walking with Rose's brother and his German friend (both ex-panzer and captured at Stalingrad) along a street in West-fallen, arm in arm, and singing 'Drei Kameraden'. An Austrian, a German, and an Englishman. How sad that we did not after the war march into Africa together, with bulldozers instead of tanks, shovels instead of rifles, to make, as O.M. dreamed, the 'Garden of Europe'. In those days my Austrian and German friends raised their glasses and said "Ein-ge Europa". Rose later said "Why just three comrades. Why not all Europeans marching together?" So many years ago when she knew little of my political views.

My Rose was not a very political person, but she had a deep abhorrence of war and was truly European. In the Austrian Red Cross at 15, she ran to the Alps when the Russians came, and had to watch them excrete on the floors of their farmhouse. She and others only came back when they threatened to shoot her parents if she did not.

She learned to love our England and the village in which she lived and never wanted to leave. Now she never will for she sleeps with her mother in our little church-yard, but five minutes from this old house.

OLD COMRADES



FRED CHARLES, former Limehouse Blackshirt. writes from New Zealand "COMRADE" has brought back some very good and nostalgic memories... My wife and I hope to visit England in June-July 1987, and hope to be able to visit some of my old friends of the pre-war Limehouse days, and post-war Kingston days. I'd like to contact ex-members of the post-war Faling Union Movement Branch. If anybody can assist I'd be grateful".

GEORGE OSBOURNE, Exeter.... "As I sit in my arm chair and see on the opposite wall a picture of Dear SIR OSWALD, the First Party Sign, and wall plaque of Flash and Circle. He was a great man, and said much in the 1930's that have now come true. Only a great mind such as he could see so far in to the future. The Newsletter is a wonderful thing for those of age and illness who cannot get about. It brings new life into their homes-like mine... HAIL MOSLEY!"

Mr. Osbourne is a disabled ex-soldier. He joined British Union, Exeter Branch in 1937, and in 1944 joined the Devon Regiment, serving for 12 years. In 1951 he was Middle-weight boxing Champion Middle East Forces. On discharge from Army he joined up with Union Movement.

ARTHUR MASON, Australia... Former BU D/L Limehouse... "Two J's... you keep me on overtime!" Editor one 'J' to Arthur Mason... "Because of your wealth of BRITISH UNION memories.... Oodly as charged!"

FROM a former UNION MOVEMENT District Leader who for business reasons must remain anon. I can only look back in pride to have known SIR OSWALD MOSLEY and his dear wife HILANA and all their stalwart supporters, Comrades like Fred Shepherd, Bill Fields, Peter Ferguson, Roger Clare, Fred Bailey and many more too numerous to mention. I was proud to have marched with these Comrades and am still proud to know them.

I only joined the Movement after the war and have often wished that I could have been involved with the pre-war Blackshirts but I was too young to understand the aims of such an organisation.

To the men and women that I have known and those that I have not.... I say thank you for showing me the way.

WANTED

Wanted for cash: Items related to the political and personal life of Sir Oswald Mosley. Also sought is material on the New Party, British Union of Fascists, and Union Movement. BOX 101. 101, Orwell Court, Pownall Road, London, E8. Pamphlets and other publications published or distributed by the B.U.F. and other Mosley material from 30's to 50's. Sons of Liberty: P.O. Box 214, Metairie, La. 70004, USA.

Information: Names of any East London Blackshirts who fought in the rearguard Battle of Calais, May, 1940. John Christian, 101, Orwell Court, Pownall Road, London, E8.

'MAY-DAY' Buffet Supper Saturday 2nd. May

TICKETS £8.00

MAKE YOUR RESERVATION

DETAILS INSIDE

COMRADE

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF O.M.

NO.6

APRIL 1987



COVER-UP INCORPORATED

**'they jailed them for years
without charge or trial'**

By
**John
Christian**

COINCIDENTAL with the exposure of the missing 18B detention files in COMRADE last month, is the publication of a new book by Richard Thurlow, lecturer in economic and social history at Sheffield University, on the history of British Fascism.*

In his book, Thurlow, who is far from uncritical of BRITISH UNION, after considerable research at the Public Records Office, confirms our own findings in that "relatively few personal files on BUF members have been released, about a dozen out of the 750 or so who were interned. Mainly this is because the large majority have been lost".

'DANGER WOMAN'

Commandant MARY ALLEN, who was Britain's first police-woman in World War I, had to report to the police every week, and not travel more than 5 miles from her Cornish home in World War II as she was considered a 'security risk'!

Commandant Mary Allen
World War I
See also P.5



"Whether or not Miss Allen is really dangerous, her detention would allay a great source of uneasiness, which is felt in many quarters" reads a report in HO144/21933 at the Public Record Office - in the file of the only woman member of BRITISH UNION that has not "gone missing" at the Home Office.

This report caused Mr. G. H. Stuart Bunning, a member of the Advisory Board, to record his own report to show his extreme displeasure at what was being done to that courageous lady whose record of service and loyalty to her country was far higher than that of many of those who impugned her.

J.C

We have taken this further with the Home Office, and the Lord Chancellor, who is responsible for the execution of the Public Records Act, and it is clear that both departments are suggesting that the missing files have been destroyed under Section 3(6) of the Act - "not required for permanent preservation".

**THEY JAILED THEM FOR YEARS
WITHOUT CHARGE OR TRIAL, IN A
COUNTRY WHERE FOR CENTURIES
SUCH TREATMENT WAS ACCORDED
ONLY TO THE GUILTY.**

**AND NOW -- NEARLY 50 YEARS
LATER, WHEN THOSE WHO ARE LEFT
ANTICIPATED THAT AT LAST THEIR
PAST BE VINDICATED, THEIR HON-
OUR AND PATRIOTISM UNBLEMISHED,
THEY FIND THE ORIGINAL
CORRUPTION PERSISTS, THE CRIME
AGAINST THEM PERPETUATED.....**

**THEIR EVIDENCE HAS BEEN
'DESTROYED'.**

**'Ah Liberty.....what crimes
are perpetuated in thy name'**

**Lost? Destroyed?: or perhaps
lying in some other secret
archive?**

**We cannot accept these dep-
artmental statements as the
last word on what would appear
to be grave maladministration.**

We make no accusation against the spokesmen concerned. If there has been maladministration, it occurred a long time ago.

It is the Departmental Record Officers of Ministries and government agencies who are responsible for the selection and rejection of historical papers, under the guidance of the Keeper of Public Records, who is appointed by the Lord Chancellor, and who has inspecting officers touring government departments for this purpose. There is also an Advisory Council on Public Records, a body of academics, M.P's, lawyers, and retired civil servants under the Chairmanship of the Master of the Rolls who advises the Lord Chancellor on public records.

We cannot believe that the historical precedent of imprisonment without charge or trial - the "de facto suspension of habeas corpus with regard to interned fascists..one of the darkest pages in Britain's liberal tradition"-as put by Richard Thurlow, would not be recognised by all those with serious involvement in the process, as a very special case with a requirement of preservation of the bulk of these personal files.

In his new book, Thurlow believes that "certain MI5 operations are being covered up", possibly relating "to the somewhat dubious methods MI5 used to obtain information about the BUF and possibly material compromised by Anthony Blunt" in his suspicions of the reasons for the extended closure by the Home Office of up to a hundred files and subfiles, among which might reside a small number of personal files.

Although the story of the internment of British Union members has 'been conveniently swept under the carpet with the tacit agreement of most of the parties involved', as put by Thurlow, we shall continue our efforts to penetrate this long disgusting cover-up, and reveal the injustice and sacrifice suffered by the guiltless men and women patriots of British Union at the hands of scared and corrupt politicians, and the Soviet spy-ridden MI5 mafia so many years ago.

*Fascism in Britain, A History, 1918-1985 (Blackwell, £16)

THE FRIENDS OF O.M.

WHEN the Friends of O.M. first met, it was not to mourn the passing of a great political leader. They met to proclaim that MOSLEY had been the very embodiment of the Spirit that for a thousand years had led men and women to achieve the very pinnacle of world power for their People and their Country.

That spirit that MOSLEY inspires in all who knew, or know of him, is far too strong to fade, far too precious to be wasted. That is the reason for our existence.

We love our Country, and are always seeking ways to serve our People, thus we remain people with a political purpose. Many times since the end of the second world war, the British people have been called forward to greet a 'New Dawn'. The larger established parties came to power and failed to deliver. The smaller parties strived but failed to achieve power, even after sometimes super-human effort. In each case it led to good people becoming dis-illusioned, and apathy rules, as they 'lived for

The Mosley Message

'If it is impossible to achieve for great and necessary purposes a union of everything vital to the nation, drawn from politics, the business world, the trade unions, the universities, the Civil Service, the fighting services, a true consensus of our people—then something else must be tried. If it be impossible to unite, the division of conflict must be risked. Then a new, grass-movement of the people must come from the still-living earth in the final test of crisis to win by its passionate dedication a majority of the people to give it power. National union made possible by the particular instinct of the British genius in adversity is preferable, but division and strife, with all the bitterness which should be avoidable, is better than acquiescence in decline and death'

Mosley... 'My Life'

to-day' because they could see no tomorrow.

'We must use our Minds'

The Blackshirts sometimes had to use their muscles, but they always had to use their Minds. To-day, more than ever we must use our Minds. All our efforts must be for effective action. We must face reality, not chase a dream.

Would starting a new political organisation be facing reality: or would it be to console ourselves that at least we were doing something? As we see day by day the destruction of all that is Great, Good and Beautiful in our Country, we know we must do something, but what we do must be directed towards the achievement of what we believe is of a high purpose. That Britain be Great again.

by MIKE QUILL

In commerce it is often the case that what USA does today, Europe does tomorrow. This is often to our detriment, especially when slavishly copied, but looking at new ideas, and adapting them to our ways can at times be beneficial. In the United States in recent years, each of the established parties have been influenced by determined groups of people that would scarcely be recognised by their founders.

'The measure of our task'

The Democrats, heirs to the tradition of the Confederate South, now a cloak for wishy-washy liberals, Black power, and all those who would destroy a way of life that has sustained America: but it also contains nearly half the American people, decent patriotic Americans who unfortunately accept anything as long as it has the right Party label.

The Republicans, once the party of cut-throat capitalism and libertarianism, has recently been influenced by Christian movements, and is making some effort to roll back the tide of the permissive society which the American people have accepted because it has had the endorsement of the right Party label.

In Britain, we know only too well that electors tend to vote for the Party label, though often proclaiming much of what the voter personally detests. This is the present reality in Britain. This is the measure of our task.

'Young Mike' in a Union Movement Armistice March Shoreditch, 1952

A schoolboy before the war, MIKE QUILL nevertheless an active supporter of British Union's Epping Branch.

After war service with London Irish in Italy, he joined Union Movement at its inception, and later chosen by O.M. as one of those to run Union Movement in the MOSLEY DIRECTORATE when he retired from active politics in 1966.



The Mosley purpose - and all that is best from our past

WE can as individuals, seek to influence the thought and feeling of all parties and organisations with a true policy, based on MOSLEY's synthesis of forward thinking and all that is best from our British and European past. We will not become an organisation taking part in the dog-fight and place-seeking corruption of present day politics. More effective influence will ultimately be achieved if we as individuals know what each of us are thinking and doing, so that in 'Comrade'—in our correspondence—and when we meet each other, these are matters that are discussed.

It can be achieved. Truth will prevail and Faith can move Mountains.

The day will come when the mass of the British People, by Union of the Best in all Parties, or by new forms of political struggle, will proclaim MOSLEY the MAN as they live out the legacy he left for their tomorrows.

The idea has come the rest will follow, and one day, Britain will see, even if only in the life-expanding rhythm of its beating heart, 'Over all the streets the Triumphant Standards of a Race Reborn'.

HOW I JOINED MOSLEY — P.3



A young MARTIN MALONEY in a poster parade in 1961. Several years later he was appointed to the MOSLEY DIRECTORATE by O.M.

AND THE PICTURE THAT MADE UP HIS MIND

the young man holding on to the flag?

A 1960 ROGER CLARE

...and Roger is still around.



MOSLEY Y...THE MAN



by PETER H. PEEL

4. Condensed from "Some Thoughts on the Passing of the Century's Greatest Englishman".....1980

Memories flood back of those lovely, long summer evenings when we piled, twenty or so members of WINDSOR Branch of the B.U.F. into an old open lorry and hared about the Berkshire and Surrey countryside, stopping at small towns like Bracknell, Ascot, Bagshot, Aldershot and Farnham. There, our fiery Glaswegian speaker, 'JOCK'—a tough eloquent ex-Communist—would harangue the bucolic locals. There are memories, too, of standing on street corners selling Blackshirt, Fascist Week and Action, and being the target of jeers, abuse, and sometimes violence. Other memories—our two reigning beauties, Maria, the half-Italian brunette with flashing dark eyes, elegantly dressed in her Astrakhan coat, and the gorgeous blonde wife of a young blond giant whose very size meant strictly "hands off or a visit to the hospital". Not that TOM was ill-natured, far from it, but his home was holy to him. There was TIM, our ex-Irish Guards Branch officer, and 'MAC', our resident wit and pianist. Many others. It is all rather kaleidoscopic now—a montage of images and moments.

'He inspired love and loyalty'

I joined the B.U.F. on December 23, 1933, six months short of being fourteen. The following year, I heard Sir Oswald speak at the ALBERT HALL and later at OLYMPIA. I heard him again at an unruly meeting at Reading. Old comrades need not be told of his brilliant intellect, or that he was one of the three or four greatest orators of the twentieth century—all this and a charismatic personality. It is little wonder he inspired love and a passionate loyalty in English men and women who would have thought themselves previously too cynical and sceptical to have heroes.

I did not actually meet him until 1948. We had both been attending a performance of DIE WALKÜRE at Covent Garden. I saluted him inside the theatre, and we met and talked outside after the performance. After that, we occasionally corresponded when he was living at Orly.

'A conspiracy of liars'

It has been said that MOSLEY "failed"—in the heroic and tragic sense of that word, because his enemies were too powerful—stupidity—a conspiracy of liars—the jealousy of little men—and of course, the omnipresent street rabble which always initiated violence—as it still does—for which a vicious and then largely alien-controlled press always blamed the B.U.F. I well remember the scurrilous but effective cartoons of David Lowe. One in particular sticks in my mind. A pathetic battered and clearly peaceful opponent of MOSLEY is lying, bleeding on the pavement while three hulking, gorilla-like Blackshirts are just walking away. Mere facts could never dispel this inverted image of the realities. Conservative meetings

in many areas could only be rather furtive, ticketed events, yet many of those same Conservatives joined in the conspiracy of lies against the Blackshirts.

After Olympia and the red violence, which I well remember witnessing both inside and outside, the B.U.F. published a well-documented booklet called Red Violence and Blue Lies. But the liar's alliance was well orchestrated and very persuasive in the provincial cities, towns, and 'respectable' suburbs. In retrospect, it is impossible to doubt the reality of that unnatural concert between red hooligans and spineless bourgeois conservatives against MOSLEY's challenge to the old order.

British Empire lost

After the War, and dissolution of the British Empire had been effected (despite Churchill's bombastic promises) under American pressures, as well as of internal failure of will, MOSLEY became convinced that Britain's best future lay in a United Europe.

Earlier, in 1941 in Malaya, I had formed The Northwest European Federal Socialist Party, but it never extended beyond our RAF squadron. In fact the words of the title almost outnumbered the membership! But what was proposed was not unlike a truncated version of MOSLEY's later ideas. We wanted an imperial federation of the White dominions together with certain European nations. We believed that our common culture was a viable basis for a federation which allowed for a good deal of local autonomy or 'states rights'. Perhaps 'Confederation' would have been a better description.

PETER H. PEEL, Ph.D.

Dr. Peel joined the BUF in 1933 at 13. Joining the RAF in 1939, he was immediately posted overseas until demob in 1946, most of his active combat being against the Japanese.

Dr. Peel is returning to live in England shortly.



Our ancient roots in Europe

This idea of a Northwest European union of forty or fifty years ago, is, for many reasons no longer viable. Europe is however, the source and fountainhead of our ancient roots and culture. Western civilisation IS European civilisation and is essentially the unique creation of the North European type of humanity. That was true of Hellas and Rome in Classical times but the old creative race there has long since been swamped by the Levant, North Africa, and the resurgence of the ancient aboriginal Neolithic subject peoples.

'With our demise, the lights go out forever'

But I remain convinced that the salvation of our race and civilisation is totally dependant upon an awakened sense of our common heritage. The ancient Greeks fought endless and debilitating wars among their various city-states, all in the name of local patriotism. Not until they were conquered by Philip of Macedon, father of Alexander, was unity forced upon them. But by then, it was already too late. Yet all through their previous history, they had recognized that they were all Greeks and shared a common ancestry and civilisation. They saw, and with good reason, the world divided between Greeks and the barbaroi (or, 'undermen as we might say). Let us not repeat their mistake and leave it too late. When Classical civilisation collapsed regeneration was still possible. There existed in the Northern forests a virile reservoir of the old creative teutonic blood. But when we go, the fateful and horrible truth is—there are no more racial reservoirs. With our demise, the lights go out forever.

A young man of the

60's on

HOW I JOINED MOSLEY

It was during my childhood in the 1950's that I first heard of MOSLEY and his Movement. An 'East London Blackshirt'—which dealt with local conditions—was pushed through my door. Even at my early age I was impressed by its content, but was stopped by a relative from reading it—'Those are wicked men'!

Mosley 'taboo'

At school, the subject of MOSLEY was 'taboo', but books on Hitler and Fascism were in the school library. There were no books on British Union. I was puzzled.

I refused to buy the school magazine—which I thought was full of nonsensical rubbish, and questioned the concept of democracy.

For this, I was persecuted and ridiculed in class by my teacher who was also Headmaster. I was lectured on Democracy at School Assembly in front of 800 other pupils. He said how good was Democracy, and how mad I was for not going with the majority in buying the Magazine.

This made me question the whole concept of democracy and realise the shame and hypocrisy that surrounded the dogma of the Mob.

Search for truth

On leaving school, I went like Zarathustra in search of truth and found it very difficult to obtain any information on MOSLEY, British Union or Union Movement.

One day, on a hoarding, with the caption 'He is Coming', I saw a huge poster of O.M. concerning his campaign in North Kensington, but it was another two years before I was to join Union Movement.

Seeing another advert, I had gone to Trafalgar Square to hear him speak. I was so impressed by what I heard and saw that I joined on the spot.

But it was some time previously that really made up my mind.

MOSLEY had been present at a great demonstration against the Anti-Apartheid Movement at a meeting in Trafalgar Square which became known as the 'battle of the Boycott'. The day after the front page of the Daily Express showed a picture of one of MOSLEY's young men struggling with two policemen who were trying to grab the Union Jack from his grasp, and to which he was so gallantly holding on.

For me: that was the moment of Truth.

MARTIN MALONEY

'All that matters is to rise always from the dust, with will and character even stronger from the test—that you may serve yet greater ends until relentless striving brings final victory'

"In my opinion, one of the finest pieces of English prose is Mosley's 'Appeal to the British' in 'The Alternative'. The content is more poignant today than when first written, and to patriots like ourselves, more heart-rending than ever before" writes old comrade Albert Coates.

**'WILL YOU RISE
AND USE YOUR
GENIUS
IN TIME?'**

APPEAL TO THE BRITISH

● We come to the end of the analysis of that failure which led to this sombre scene. Chaos looms, and the peoples of Europe and the Americas seek the alternative. We shall turn in the second part of this book, to regard the radiant possibilities of superhuman achievement with which the material possibilities of this great age challenge the will of man. Let us face it with a full sense of the superb moment in which we live. It is true that "danger shines like sunshine to a brave man's eyes"; yet it is now a brighter sun than even Euripides could conceive, because from it is reflected not only danger, but the possibility of a civilisation beyond the dream of the ages.

In the last words of this survey of failure, I turn to my own countrymen—to the real people of England whom I have known in real things, in Agriculture, in the great Professions, in the back streets of East London, in the industries of the North, in the Army and "Royal Flying Corps" of the 1914 war, to whom are now added a new war generation of similar ideal—and I ask them this question: "Will your genius live again and in time to make its unique contribution?" Too long has it been enchained to serve purposes the opposite of those you desired.

Once again the dark technique has used the best instincts to produce the worst results. Their politics persuaded you that you were a Knight Errant going to the aid of the oppressed: in present society you had no means of learning the truth. Your fine and generous instinct to help the "under-dog" was exploited to make you the instrument of European frustration. In the misery of the post-war period how strange and darkly mysterious appears the metamorphosis by which the under-dog becomes a money-lender to whom you owe your world. That conjuring trick of fatality still bewilders you, while Mob and Money laugh and dance on your generous ideals. The finest and the best in a new war generation sink beneath the wave of bitter cynicism which submerged our few companions, who still lived in 1918. Deceit was the end, but yet the means were noble. You gave all for high purposes and, in so doing, you made your own high character. That remains, when the ends for which you fought dissolve in dust and ashes. Nothing matters now except that you should use the character you gained in the hard experience of that great illusion to serve new ends of reality and truth.

Again and again I have been brought down in the service of high things by the triumph of the small, the mean and the false; but, each time, the experience has made me stronger. All that matters is to rise always from the dust, with will and character even stronger from the test—that you may serve yet greater ends until relentless striving brings final victory. Such has been the character of the English in their sunlit, creative periods, and that nature still lives in the real England. The great river still flows in deep and calm, if latent, purpose; but the scum on the top is thick. Beneath, are still the great qualities of the English; your kindness, your toleration, your open-minded sanity, your practical sense, your adaptability in plan, your flexibility in action, your steadiness of spirit in adversity, your power to endure, your final realism, even your ultimate dynamism; all the great qualities are still there, which took you out from the Northern Mists to see with the Hellenic vision of the Elizabethan bright lands which you held and moulded with firm, Roman hands. Will you rise and use your genius in time? Will you away with the spirit of denial and negation before it is too late? Will you fulfil your destiny in a harmony of the European spirit, without end in expression of beauty and achievement? Or will it really be too late? For this time it will be the last "too late." I have given many warnings to my fellow-countrymen which were true; but they were not heeded. I now give my last. . . . There will be no Channel next time. . . .

● Oswald Mosley, "The Alternative" 1948

The Spirit Lives

We do not know if these lines from the pen of an old British Union member - (see 'Old Comrades' back page) - have any poetic merit. For those who were present at the Royal Hotel, Holborn in 1945, they will however bring back many memories, and for those younger generations taking up the Mosley ideal, show the quality of a greater love that he inspired in those he led.

REUNION

THRO' six weary years of trouble and war,
We went our way bravely, tho' our hearts were sore.
Our members were scattered, and crowds went inside,
Everyone said our Movement had died.

But prisons were too small to hold us all,
And those of us outside, heard the call;
We rallied together whenever we could,
And to see dear old faces was certainly good.

One person tho' was missed by us all
Tho his voice and his features we all could recall:
And so we went on, and hoped for the best
When the one that we missed would be with the rest.

At last came the day, awaited so long
When you, our dear Leader joined in the throng:
I know I'll remember, all thro' my life,
When Sir Oswald Mosley came in with his wife.

The speech that he gave us, made all things worthwhile;
Prison had certainly not cramped his style:
And although we gave them little respite,
We knew they were glad to be with us that night.

The evening once over, we went on our way,
Our thoughts were no longer empty or grey.
We'd seen our Leader, he'd given us cheer,
The first that we'd had for many a year.

Now since in the common, there's lots being said
About 'British Union', they all thought was dead:
Why all the trouble? why all the fuss,
Whatever they say won't intimidate us:

So "God bless you Mosley", in all that you do,
"God bless you and keep you, your dear wife too:
And as I go through life, I will always be proud
That I was allowed to be one of the crowd.

Gladys Walsh

THE MOSLEY SOUND HERITAGE



"UNEMPLOYMENT is one problem that really matters today. Politicians are regarded as people who have learned to talk but not to act. Britain can only survive by vigour and by action. To do that, government and statesmen must take their courage in their hands".

These prophetic words, made after his resignation from the Labour government in May 1930, are on the first known recording of Sir OSWALD MOSLEY's voice.

Following the publication of the MOSLEY MANIFESTO in December 1930, he said "We have no real democracy because again and again the country has voted for great changes and decisive action, yet the will has been thwarted by obstruction in the 'talking shop' at Westminster", and while never issued on disc, it is fortunate that some of these early MOSLEY statements and speeches have been preserved.

"We of the war generation who followed the old men and the old parties ever since we came back in 1918, have been deceived. We say at last that we've had enough. We are going to have a new movement for the new age in which we live" is one remarkable recording from his October 1931 New Party election campaign.

These historic recordings give a remarkable insight into the MOSLEY mind that led to the founding in October 1932 of the British Union of Fascists.

The B.U.F. discs

Apart from the two pre-war records of his voice, the only other official release was in January 1936. Recorded at Decca's Kennington sound studio by the B.U.F. Male Voice Choir and Orchestra, 'The Marching Song' and 'Britain Awake!'. They were originally on a black label with gold lettering, the issue number being SP13. This 10 inch double sided disc was later reissued in June 1938 with a red, white and blue flash and circle motif to match MOSLEY's speech record 'British Union/Comrades in Struggle'. It is not known how many were pressed, but it is thought to have been a considerable number. They can be picked up, by diligently searching; but not at the original price of 1/6 (7½ pence)!

The Leader!



'My Comrades in Struggle'

Thanks to old comrades, it has now been established that the 1934 Albert Hall meeting was recorded by Sound Services Ltd., 89, Wardour Street, London, alas, long since defunct. As only ten minutes were released at the time, it is possible that a cache of at least two dozen master discs covering the whole meeting may still be in existence. With so many momentous events taking place all over the country, it could be that further recordings were made outside of London. It is known that at least some of the epic June 1934 Olympia meeting was recorded but never issued. Thanks again to Comrade readers, a start has been made on listing chronologically all recording of MOSLEY's voice.

Due to tape recorders, the post-war era of Union Movement is better served. But even here, a few major gaps have been discovered.

by ROY CUMMINGS

Missing Union Movement Recording

In February 1948, a company called Sound Transmission toured with a large public address van playing MOSLEY's inaugural speech on the Union of Europe, recorded at the first Union Movement conference. Later the same year, a 12 inch double sided record was released. Unfortunately, no trace of this disc or MOSLEY's complete speech can be found. This fact shows how fragile history can be, and gives impetus to us all to ensure the next generation can have the unfettered opportunity to hear all of MOSLEY's considerable sound heritage.

To quote the Leader - from a recording that has been preserved - "Together in Britain we've lit a flame that ages shall not extinguish. Guard that sacred flame my brother Blackshirts until it illumines Britain, and lights again the path of mankind".

GRAMOPHONE
RECORDS . . .

MANUFACTURED
BY DECCA

THE MARCHING SONG AND BRITAIN AWAKE!

By Members of the
B.U.F. MALE CHOIR & ORCHESTRA

Obtainable from 18 in. Double-Sided Record.

BLACKSHIRT BOOKSHOP

and from B.U.F. Publications Ltd. Gt. Smith St. S.W.1

1/6

"Join in our song, for they
still march in spirit
with us...."



"Britain, assert thine ancient honour,
Who never knew a foreign yoke,
Oh, turn thy face toward the future;
Thy life and strength are in thy folk"



The Scorpion

WE have been reading The Scorpion, a magazine devoted to the European idea, described by its editor, MARTIN WALKER, as "a cultural, metapolitical magazine" that wishes "to help make the intelligence of our readers active in the cause of European Culture". It is opposed to "the mediocrity of both the American and Soviet models of society", and "unprejudiced yet standfast in its championing of European culture".

A young academic 'friend of O.M.' describes it as "one of the most intelligent and articulate section of the European-wide resistance to the current hopelessness".

Supporters of Mosley's Europe may find much with which they will disagree, but also much in common.

A high standard of debate is very necessary if our European Europe is to be achieved.

From what we have seen, The Scorpion is playing a part in 'that long striving of the European soul to reach fulfilment'.

The Scorpion is published three times a year at a subscription of £5 for four issues from: BCM 5766 London WC1X 3XX. A sample copy can be obtained for £2.30.

BRITISH UNION MEMBER WAS FIRST WPC ON THE BEAT

NEXT time you see a policewoman it's worth remembering that the co-founder of that force later became a distinguished member of BRITISH UNION.

Readers of pre-war ACTION may well remember the frequent articles by COMMANDANT MARY ALLEN on the subject of women's welfare. These continued until the banning of BRITISH UNION in 1940 - and her own arrest.

In November 1914, Miss Allen had been one of Britain's first two official uniformed policewomen: her duties included patrolling the streets of Grantham, Lincolnshire, on foot. At the end of the First World War Scotland Yard attempted to disband the Women's Police Service, but Miss Allen (pictured in her police uniform) was more than their match and successfully blocked this 'proto-chauvinist' move.

Awarded OBE

In 1917 she was awarded the OBE for her war service and went on to codify the duties of policewomen in the emergent force with special emphasis on child welfare and the protection of girls from exploitation.

She was one of many former leading suffragettes, including NORAH ELAM and MARY RICHARDSON, who transferred their allegiance to MOSLEY and BRITISH UNION in recognition of the Movement's policy of 'real sex equality' and its active campaign for peace and the true interests of the British people.

JEREMY WALKER

In Memoriam

"Hark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages"

DUHIG, PADDY.....former
Millwall docker, RAF,
and early Union Move-
ment. UM Drum Corps.
On April 12 1986



NIGHTINGALE, A....former Dis/Leader
Horsham British Union, 18B det-
ention 1940.
Died April 1948

BRITISH UNION ROLL OF HONOUR

1939 1945

BREWER, Cpl. Arthur A.J ...2nd Btn
Black Watch,Dorset Branch
British Union, age 23, killed in
action, Burma, 5 April 1944. Name
inscribed Rangoon Memorial.

MITFORD, Major The Hon Tom ...Rifle
Brigade, brother of Lady Mosley,
NHQ Branch, British Union
Killed in action, Burma, 4 April
1945

LOOKING BACK

A series of occasional photo-
graphs of **BRITISH UNION** and
UNION MOVEMENT events

No. I BOURNEMOUTH YOUTH CAMP
May 1950



Top to bottom: Reno Santucci, Jimmy
Elves, Archie White, and Len Egan.
'Young Reno' now lives in USA...will
be in London soon. 'Young Jimmy' ?..
meet him at the May-Day Buffet.

WANTED

Wanted for cash: Items related to the
political and personal life of Sir Oswald
Mosley. Also sought is material on the
New Party, British Union of Fascists, and
Union Movement. BOX C101.
101, Orwell Court, Pownall Road, London, E8.

OLD COMRADES

WELCOME to 78 yr old
GEORGE PRATTON, former **BRITISH UNION**
District Leader of Marylebone, who
before the war was a familiar figure
in London's West End with street
sales of 'Action'—winning the
'Action Sales Cup'—that is, on an
occasion it was not won by **Charlie**
Watt's Westminster St. George's!
We had a nostalgic two hours, talk-
ing over old faces and places. "We
had many well-known people in our
Branch" said George.

One happy memory was of writer and
BU member **HENRY WILLIAMSON**, taking
periodical leave from his Norfolk
farm to visit London for a BBC
programme.

"Always the same" said George. "He
would arrive in a noisy old car,
and as he passed us on street
sales he would shout his greetings
with great gusto, and he never left
London after his programme with-
out calling at the Branch for a
chat".

And an overdue WELCOME to
MRS. PATRICIA FLOWERDEW, of **Gardiners**
Farm, Eye, Suffolk, a long-standing
and staunch friend of O.M.

We are reminded of her loyalty by
her quick response to a letter
attacking Mosley in the **East Angli-**
an Daily Times.

Pointing out that the letter con-
tained "incorrect facts", and that
she objected to "such vilification"
she continued, "he was a great pa-
triot, whose motto was 'Britain First'"



"It's wonderful to know
how those of us dedicated to the
Movement can still keep in touch
after all these years" writes
MRS. GLADYS WALSH, of Clacton, Essex.

A former member of **Limehouse B.U.**,
she has been assisting by her mem-
ories, a young student research
British Union, East London before
the war. "He tells me that he
often walks through **Duckett Street**,
(former headquarters) to recreate
'atmosphere' of the thirty's" she
said.

One treasured memory, the 1945
Reunion organised by the 18B Det-
ainees Fund at the **Royal Hotel, Hol-**
born, "when we met the **Leader** and
Lady Diana for the first time since
the war, and they and many others
signed my programme".

We too remember old friend

.....he was a man of great courage
and great principles...his follow-
ers volunteered in great numbers,
and were some of the first to give
their lives for our country"

Well done Mrs. Flowerdew

'British Union Day'

MAY DAY, the traditional Peoples Day born out of the National Festival
of the people in Tudor times, and chosen as '**Labour Day**' by early soc-
ialist **Robert Owen** as a day to be associated with the revival
of the British people, had already by the 1930's, been degraded by the
Marxist hi-jacked Labour Party into a day for every people except the
British.

In the latter years of British Union's struggle, by massive demon-
strations in the heart of **East London**, and the music in the words of
Mosley and his British Union speakers, they returned **May Day** as '**Peoples**
Day' to the British people.

"In the spring of the year living nature throws off the dross of the
past and breaks through to a new and renewed glory. So also the fiery
will of man shall burst through the encumbrance of decadence and vested
interest to a wondrous renewal of the vital spirit of Britain".

Thus spoke **Mosley** in his **May Day** message of 1938, and continued "Let
them think for a moment of the gay and manly scene of Tudor England on
May Day, when a people of genius were first reaching out with hard and
confident challenge to the leadership of mankind; fire in their eyes
while their laughter rang in the face of Death. Such men had not trod
the mortal scene since the sunlight of the Attic spirit and the virility
of ancient Rome had declared that no bounds could restrain the will of
man....Let us on **May Day**....raise our eyes from the mud to see again
the light of those who died gladly in every age of Britain's greatness
that the glory of Britain might live for ever...High is this task, and
great this destiny. TO BRITAIN AND HER GREAT PEOPLE WE WILL BE TRUE".

And on this **May Day, 1987**, wherever we are, together in comradeship,
or apart but in spirit with us, name this day "**British Union Day**" when
each year we rededicate ourselves to the promise of the **Leader's** final
words

'MAY-DAY' Buffet Supper ... Saturday 2nd. MAY

COMRADE

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF O.M.

NO. 7

MAY/JUNE 1987



'THE HOME SECRETARY had no foundation for suspicion against MOSLEY and never found any'

Professor A.J.P. Taylor in The Observer 30 October 1983

THE EMERGING TRUTH OF THE BLACKSHIRT SACRIFICE

ON THIS ANNIVERSARY of the massive arrest and imprisonment without charge or trial of patriotic members of **BRITISH UNION** in 1940, we make no apologies for devoting all our front page and much of this issue to the names of our old comrades, the vast majority of whom are now dead.

This list of servicemen interned because they followed **MOSLEY**, has only recently come into our hands and is far from complete in numbers or in detail owing to the difficulties under which it was compiled during the last war. A small number were taken on active service - some after coming through the ordeal of Dunkirk, but the bulk were ex-servicemen of 1914-18, their loyalty to their country already proven, but to be 'reassessed' by an ex-Conscientious Objector of fighting age whose war was spent working in an orchard while they were fighting

bloody battles and winning awards for valour in Flanders fields.

And at the same time that this disgusting political vendetta was being scrambled into operation, and the security police knock on the door echoed throughout the land, and men who had committed no crime were seized and disappeared into the night, their younger comrades - Mosley's young men, were already lying dead before Calais and Dunkirk. Many more were to die in the war - only now, years later, are we beginning to count the cost - while their leader and many of his supporters lay incarcerated in jails and concentration camps, stigmatized as potential traitors by the war-time dictatorship of political pygmies who had led us into a war that was to destroy centuries of British power.

FOR OUR MEN WHO DIED - REMEMBER THEM WITH PRIDE.

FITCH, Sq/Ldr R.L.J.

'Tigge'. DFC RAF Clapham Branch British Union: Age 26: killed in flying ops Docking, Norfolk 21 May 1945: Buried Saint Nicholas Churchyard: Kelvedon Hatch, Essex



GILL, Sgt/Pil BASIL W. RAF VR and Leeds British Union: detained 18B June 1940: killed in flying ops 28 May 1943: Age 22: buried collective grave Harehills Cemetery, Leeds.

IRVINE, Pte Robert... 1/5 Bn Queens Royal Regt. and Shoreditch British Union: killed in action 28 May 1940 Age 21: buried Strazeele Communal Cemetery, France

WALSH, Sgt Michael: RAF VR 156 Sqd and Limehouse Branch British Union: Age 23: killed in flying ops 27 July 1942: Name inscribed Panel 96 Runnymede Memorial

YOUR FREEDOM IS IN PERIL — DEFEND IT

WITH ALL YOUR MIGHT—

... Government Propaganda Slogan, 1940

'The Secretary of State has reasonable cause to believe that you have been a member of the organisation now known



as British Union, and to have been active in the furtherance of its objects: and that it is necessary to exercise control over you....' Served on those jailed without charge or trial, 1940

THE 'CONTROLLER'

Home Secretary Herbert Morrison: as conscientious in control of the imprisonment of patriotic service and ex-servicemen of both wars, as he was in his opposition to the first war.

As a Conscientious Objector.

A 'HYPOCRISY THAT STINKS TO HIGH HEAVEN'

Morrison's 'Traitors'

ALLEN S. 5th West Yorks... 4 years service
ANTLEY F.W. 32 Bn. A.I.F... 2 1/2 years active service
BARRETT O.C. 1/5 Lincs. Fusiliers... 2 1/2 years active service
BARREN S.N. Major Reid. MC. OBE. Late R. Eng.
BATEMAN W. Flt. Staff Sgt. RAF 2 medals
ROCKETT Joe 1914-1918
BENTINCK-BUDD C.H. Capt. R. Eng. 2nd Bn. Buffs 1914-1918
BAKER T.G. ST. BARRE Captain MC 1914-1918
BERRY R.G. Captain Order of St. George GSV
BLACKMORE A.R. Driver R.N.A. 1914-1923
BOGLE W.S. R.N.R. 4 years active service
BOWEN G.E. Sgt. R.E. 4 years active service
BRADLEY E North Staffs Regt.
BROCK GRIGGS H.T. RAF. arrested Far East on active service
BROCKLEBANK H. Norfolk Regt 4 yrs act. service
BURGESS F.J. Pte. Liverpool Regt 2 medals
BURNETT H RASC 3 1/2 yrs active service
CRISP H.V. Lt. RE arrested on active service
CREASER A Dr. RASC 3 medals
CROSBY C. Corp. E/Torks Regt. 4 yrs service
DAVIES J.J. 23rd Squadron RCS 2 1/2 yrs a/service
DICKSON W.W. Kings Liverpool Regt. 4 yrs service
DOUGAN B.D.E. Capt. 29th DCO Baluchis 1914-18
DUCKWORTH J. RAF 4 years service
DUNN E.A. Lt. RFC 3 medals
EDWARDS A. Royal Navy. 5 yrs active service
EDWARDS W.M. Royal Navy CPO 3 medals
ELLIS J.R.N.V.R. 3 medals
EVANS D.M. 2nd Lt. R.E. Arrested on a/service
FANE F.C. Lt. RN

BRITISH UNION ROLL OF HONOUR

1939

1945

AITKEN, Sq/Ldr
Lionel RAF 59 Sq and "I" Squad British Union: killed in flying ops 7 July 1941 Buried Dunkirk Town Cemetery.



AUSTIN, Sgt. William George. 1st Bn KRRC and Liverpool British Union. Age 26: killed in action Tunis 10 May 1943: buried Medjez-el-Bab War Cemetery, Tunisia.

AYRES, Pte. Francis 'Nipper' 6th Bn Green Howards and Limehouse Branch British Union: killed in action 25 May 1940: Age 20: buried Oye-Plage Communal Cemetery, France.

DANBY, Sgt William Calvert. 5th Bn Green Howards: Kingston Branch D/Leader British Union: Age 36: killed in action 31st May 1940: "buried near this spot" in Adinkerke Military Cemetery, Belgium.

IF they are members of any of the Forces or Services of the Crown, they should obey their orders, and, in very particular, obey the rules of their Service'.

Mosley's Message to members September 3rd. 1939

-MESSAGE RECEIVED AND UNDERSTOOD

MEMORIES flowed back with the sight of two of the names in 'Comrades' current British Union Roll of Honour, for they were two young men whose life-styles could not have been more different, but with whom I shared in that unique comradeship which was the hall-mark of British Union.

'TIGGE' FITCH

I first met Lionel 'Tigge' Fitch when, at 17, I came to London in 1936, and transferred from Manchester to Clapham Branch. He and I - and District Leader Charles Daniels and another young member, 'Smoke' M., became a foursome in leisure activities away from normal branch duties.

Tigge was a junior salesman with a sparking plug firm, and had the useful 'perk' of a firm's car of which we persuaded him we all should make some use!

Destination 'The Rising Sun'

This tended to be a monthly Saturday night pub-crawl - the intake rationed by lowly pockets-around those areas of East London where the evening air was electric with the feel of the excitement and hope that MOSLEY and British Union had brought to those who had been so often betrayed by the old gang politicians.

So it was Shoreditch, Limehouse, and Bethnal Green, with the Rising Sun in Green Street-near North East Bethnal Green Branch - always our last call and where our young voices would join the locals with the Marching Song and other Blackshirt songs banged out with old English favourites on the pub piano.

Into the RAF - and a DFC

Come 1938 and Tigge signed with the RAF on a short service commission, and a year later we were at war, and Tigge in Canada training the new intake to be hurled against the Luftwaffe. Later he returned to England and flying operations during which he survived a ditching in the English Channel, and escape back to England from France, picking up a DFC on the way.



Saturday night at The Rising Sun, Bethnal Green in 1937. The young Tigge Fitch and John Christian

He survived the War. But only just. Reunion with his former comrades was not to be, for two weeks after the end of hostilities in Europe, he was killed when the Mosquito he was ferrying from No.1 P&M Centre, Bircham Newton, caught fire on crashing whilst landing at Docking airfield, Norfolk.

And so another of British Union's young men was to be seen no more.

But I shall always see him in the Rising Sun, the young in-love-with-life 'Tigge' Fitch, laughing and singing out The Marching Song as he downed his last half-pint with a toast to Mosley.

By JOHN CHRISTIAN

BOB IRVINE

I only knew BOB IRVINE for a brief moment in time, but nevertheless he was one of those who one meets in life - if one is fortunate, that one feels privileged to have met.

It was the mid-summer of 1939, and young men of 21 were being conscripted for the first time in peace-time. The Militiamen - for six months army training. Although only 20, and not yet due for call-up, I had volunteered for the first draft. It is said that one should not volunteer for anything in the army, but I was young, and thought it to be an honour to be in the first draft of young men to be trained to fight, if necessary, for one's country.

It was my first mistake, for when my papers came to report to the Queen's Royal Regiment at Stoughton Barracks, Guildford on July 15th, I realised with dismay that it was the day before MOSLEY's meeting at Earls Court which I had been anticipating with enthusiasm.

I then made my second mistake by writing to the Adjutant asking for week-end leave before reporting for duty! He was not amused, and I was not too popular on arrival on the determined day.

But as I scrambled to wash and shave in the shambles of some 30 odd unknown young men, in despair thinking of the meeting I was going to miss, I was amazed to hear above the noise, the clear whistle of the Marching Song. I searched for the source and that was how I first met young Irvine.

A 'full-blooded' Mosley man

A tough but happy-go-lucky boy from Shoreditch, with not a real hate in the world, he told me that he and all his family, who had a stall in Hoxton Market, though not actual members, were all

'full blooded' MOSLEY supporters, and as loyal as any who had 'signed forms' (Historians counting numbers might dwell on this East London phenomenon when assessing support in East London.)

During the next few weeks of that Summer of all English summers, we became firm friends as the army tried to make us into good soldiers in time for the impending European tragedy.

The Marching Song echoed through the Autumn air.

Come September 3rd, and the declaration of war, a few of us were given evening passes, and Irvine and I were lucky, and with two other lads we had semi-converted we hit the high road for Guildford Town. The few lads let out that night were well 'looked after' by the locals, but my memory is clear. It is of the sound of The Marching Song, and other Blackshirt songs echoing through the Autumn evening air as the four walked their way back to barracks, and into World War II.

I think I saw him once more: to show him Mosley's Message instructing members in the Forces to obey orders and rules of the Service, which had been sent to me by my wife to be. Shortly after I was posted to Divisional HQ and we lost touch.

Nine months later, at a time I was lying in the military ward of a general hospital with Mosley already five days under arrest and his supporters being pursued and arrested, the young Irvine, that laughing, lovable, care-free Cockney boy, had fully fulfilled his loyalty to Mosley and to his country right or wrong.

He was blown to bits near Strazeele in the battalion's fighting retreat to Dunkirk.

'NIPPER' AYRES and MICKY WALSH

TWO lads from BRITISH UNION's Limehouse Branch are remembered in our current Roll of Honour.

Pte. 'Nipper' Ayres, only 20, was killed in action with the 6th Bn. Green Howards who had taken up defensive positions on May 24th 1940 at Gravelines as part of the USHER Force defending Dunkirk.

After heavy German bombing, the battalion withdrew to the Westside of Dunkirk during which Nipper was killed in action.

On the very same day, many BU Limehouse lads were being arrested and interned without charge or trial on the pretence that 'their loyalty was in question'!

Sgt. Michael Walsh RAF VR was to die on operations two years later.

Flying with RAF's newly-formed 156 Squadron, Micky Walsh was in the crew of Wellington ZL659 that took off from Alconbury for Bremen.

An SOS was received while outward bound but no fix could be obtained. The aircraft failed to return to base.

Arthur Mason, who was their District Leader, writes from Australia. "They were a couple of fine lads". Mrs. Gladys Walsh of Clacton, who was a Limehouse member, "I knew them well. Good boys. The last time I saw Micky he was quite confident that we would be marching through Berlin by Christmas. A nice quite lad".

POLITICAL PRISONERS OF CAMP X



Photograph by permission of the Controller of HM Stationary Office

← Message received and understood

BILL DANBY

SGT. BILL DANBY, BU District Leader of Kingston, was killed in action in Belgium fighting with 6th Bn. Green Howards in May 1940 shortly before his brother FRANK, who was District Leader of East Hull, was arrested and interned.

His death spared him a future family tragedy, for his brother's wife, who was also a Blackshirt, his young child, his father, mother, uncle and aunt, were all killed in the bombing of Belfast.

The authorities were lenient. Brother Frank was allowed out of Ascot Concentration Camp for the funeral.

IN HANDCUFFS.

BASIL GILL

SGT. PILOT BASIL GILL, RAF VR, Leeds BU, was interned when only 19, and whilst at Ascot Concentration Camp recorded some of the activities of Charlie Watts "It has Happened Here".

Basil took up his duties with RAF on release from internment, and is believed to have died as a result of flying operations, the details of which are not known.

LIONEL AITKEN

SQ/LDR. LIONEL AITKEN, Pilot of a Blenheim of RAF 59 Squadron, Lionel took off from DETLING on 7 July 1941 for an offensive patrol over Northern France.

After attacking the air defences of CHERBOURG-MAUPERTUS, the 6 Blenheims attacked two German convoys off GRAVELINES and CALAIS, sinking an "E" Boat and damaging further vessels.

Lionel was last seen diving into the sea with starboard engine on fire after flying low over an escorting destroyer.

Blackshirt family

One of a family of very active Blackshirts, his brother ANDREW, a Pilot Officer in RAF, was killed in a flying accident in 1937. His father was a member, as was his sister MARJORY, active in BU Womens Fencing, and who married Harley Street surgeon Dr. A.M.A. Moore, who was active in BU medical circles.

Possibly the only photograph of British political prisoners inside a British Concentration Camp ever to have been published, it was taken in Camp X, Peel, Isle of Man, in 1941.

They are I to R: G.E. Thomas, A.F. Bull, K.T. Duffield, Captain P. Elwin Wright, J.C. Cooke, A.L. Parker, C.B. Guthbert-Smith, J. Pickmere, R.J. Jarman, J. Moffat, A.N. Other, (but familiar!)

They were all BU with exception of Capt. Elwin Wright, Nordic League, but it is noted that he 'enrolled' in BU in Camp.

Their personal files are not on view at the Public Record Office.

Presumably, 'not of any historical interest!'

BILL AUSTIN

A comrade present at his death tells the story.

IT was in 1937 at Great Scotland Yard Recruiting Centre that I first met BILL AUSTIN. I was 18, and Bill 20, and we were both to sign on to become regulars in the KRRC.

During training he told me he was a member of British Union, which was of great interest to me, because although I had never joined the Movement, I had attended many of Mosley's meetings, and counted myself as a supporter. We had many discussions together, and as the years went by - though not in constant touch - we were aware of each others movements within the Regiment.

**'We were getting everything!
Solid shot, high explosive!'**

Come 1943, we were again together in North Africa, but it was to be for the last time for Bill was killed in Tunis. We had taken up a position and knew the Battle was nearly at an end. But a Jerry artillery unit in the hills was determined to use up all its ammunition before spiking its guns and surrendering, a good soldiering duty. So we were getting everything! Solid shot, high explosive, just as it came. All we had to do was to sit tight and wait for the storm to blow over. I sat in my slit trench and read a book between nagging whose turn it was to 'brew up'. Poor old Austin decided it would be better to find a 'better 'ole' after a nearly spent solid shot had removed his pack from his Portee.

A splinter caught him whilst he was in the open.

PAGE 1 << Morrison's 'Traitors'

FAWCETT ERNEST, R.A.F. Gunner 1915
FERRIS A. Captain RFC MC
FRITH F.V. F/Off RAF DPM MM
FOWDEN A. Corp. Welsh Regiment
GOURDON Dennis Arrested on return Dunkirk
GORDON D.C. R.A. 3 years service
HAMER R.J.A. Lt. S/Wales Borderers. arrested on active service
HASLAM F 53 Coy MGC Lancs Fus. 4yrs a/service Military Medal.
HAWKLEY Oliver Lt. R. Fusiliers MC
HICK U.A. Captain
HEATH E.A. ASC MT 5th Div HQ Staff
HONE B.L. Pte. Gordon Highlanders. 4 yrs a/serv.
HONE John H. 2nd Lt. RE & 1/15 London Regt.
HOPKINS C.F. 8th Middlesex Regt. 4yrs a/serv.
HUDSON C.E. Commander RN
HUMPHRIES J. Sd/Comm. RFC. DSO. MC
JEANS H.D. Flt/Lt RAF MC
JESSOP F.P. Cpl. Beds & Herts Regiment
JONES R. Military Medal 4yrs Infantry.
LOMAX E.A. Kings Own Royal Lancs Regt. 7 years service

LUNT P. Pte RFC
LUTTMAN JOHNSON H.W.C. Captain Indian Cavalry.
MCCLERY J.J. R. Eng. 5 years active service
MCKECHNIE H.G. Royal Flying Corps & RAF
MACQUEEN J.M. London Scottish. 2 medals
MANICO F.E. Capt. 20th London Regt. 2 medals
MASE D.W. L/Cpl RAMC 2 medals
MEERIMAN G.E. A/B Merch. Navy 5yrs a/service
MILLER Basil APO RAF
PENNA Frank. Lt. East Yorks Regt. 2 medals
PENNELLIS W. Cameron Highlanders 4yrs a/serv.
PHILLIPS A.W. Captain Oxon & Bucks Lt. Inf.
PITT-RIVERS G.L.F. Captain Royal Dragoons
PRESTAGE J. Sgt RE MCS. Mons Star
RAFFS P.W. RAF No. 60872
RILEY C. Cpl RASC 3 medals
RIX R. 17/21 Lancers
ROBERTS R.L.F. RAMC 6 years active service
ROSE D.H. Pioneer Corps. Arrested act. serv.
RUSSELL J.A. RFC RAF 8 years active service
RUTLAND. Sd. Leader RAF
SEARPE J. RASC MT 10973 5 years service
SHERSTON W.E. 2nd Lt. Suffolk Regt. arrested on active service
SHIPPAM W.H. Queen's West Kents. 4yrs a/serv.
SIMPSON H. Pte. 6th Bn. Lancs. Fus. 4yrs service
SHEATON-STEWART R.A. Capt. 9th Div. 1914-1917
SMITH A. Pte. RASC 172T 3 medals
SMITH Bryan Lt. RASC 3 1/2 years service
SMYTHIE S. Roy. Merchant Marines 21 years continuous service. 1914-19 and Dunkirk.
STEPHENSON H.M. MC RAMC
STONE A.E. Trooper E.R. Yeomanry 3 1/2 yrs a/serv.
SURTEES G. MSM M. in D.
SYMONDS A.W.C.I. Writer. R. Navy. 1903-1925. 1939-1940 4 Medals.
TALLET B. HMS BRITANNIA 3 1/2 yrs a/service.
TAYLOR J. Private. 1st Bn. Lancs. Fus. King's Liverpool Regt., R. Welsh Fus., 553rd Agricultural Labour Corps. Gen. Services and Victory Medals, 1914-15 Star, King's Certificate for Honour and Disabling.
THOMAS A. RAF 4 years active service
TOPPE V.G. Lt. E/Surrey Regt. arrested A/serv.
TURNER E. Capt. MC. Suffolk Regt. 4yrs a/serv.
VICTOR-ROWE T.W. M.T. (A.S.C.) Sig.
WATTS C.F. RAF 9 years service
WATTS E.J. Sgt. Royal Berkshire Regt.
WHITE W.C. Private 2nd. Scot. Rifles; 12th. Royal Scots

WILLIAMS W.C. R/W Kents. 16yrs active service (and two sons detained)

WOODS J.H. Capt. OBE. R/Welsh Fusiliers
WONFER I.A. Sgt. 78th Canadian Bn. 2 Medals
WYNN John Lt. Royal F. Corps. RWR. 4yrs service

Lord Denning on Freedom

"In the year 1215 on the meadow which is called Runnymede.. there was sealed Magna Carta, the Great Charter, which founded the rule of law, These ensure the freedom of every law-abiding citizen to think what he will, to say what he will, and to go where he will without let or hindrance"

Sunday Telegraph Magazine 8 February 1987

WITH TONGUE IN CHEEK 'ME LUD'?

BRITISH UNION'S CHALLENGE

Mosleygate 1940

by Gordon Beckwell

WHEN BRITISH UNION Industrial Advisor, P.G. Taylor voluntarily confessed to OSWALD MOSLEY that he was an MI5 'mole', he proved it by relating his knowledge of an occasion when OM had carried out a highly secret mission for the 1930 Labour Government about which only a Security would have known. OM told him, with a smile, to continue with his BU work, but added "We will observe your methods with interest!"

This was hardly the reaction of a man obsessed with counter-espionage. OM always insisted on "keeping the law until we can change it". He had nothing to hide so nothing to fear. His bemused tolerance of "narks" served a purpose: when they failed to find any hint of illegality it reflected favourably on BU.

This is not the belief of Richard Thurlow in his new book 'Fascism in Britain' (Blackwell, £16). He admits no evidence was ever found to show BU ever sanctioned illegal acts, despite intimidation by MI5 during interrogation. But he describes OM so obsessed with counter-espionage that it interfered "with running an efficient organisation". In fact, the point is made seven times in his book.

He has possible delved further into the Mosley Papers at the Public Records Office than anybody else, and come up with some interesting facts. After the was declared, OM attended a number of meetings with other British anti-war groups to see if efforts could be co-ordinated. One of his contacts was Archibald Ramsay, MP, who was involved in the Tyler Kent affair. Kent had removed secret ciphers between Roosevelt and Churchill from the US Embassy. These showed that while Roosevelt was fighting the US election as an isolationist, he was secretly negotiating with Churchill to bring the United States into the war.

MI5 learned of the Ramsay/Kent affair and both were arrested. Thurlow comes to the remarkable conclusion that MI5 wrongly thought that OM was involved and led to his internment, although he shows elsewhere that MI5 had penetrated the Mosley/Ramsay meetings and that OM only learned about the Kent affair when in Brixton Prison, and that Cabinet minutes noted that Ramsay was in relations with OM on another matter.

I find this the least convincing argument in the book. A mountain out of a molehill.

Internment..the real reason

One of the real reasons for internment is found elsewhere in the book. "Home Office Intelligence reports on civilian morale suggested that there

was considerable support for a negotiated peace with Hitler during the phoney war period." Eventually war-weariness might have led the people to turn towards OM's policy of Peace with Honour and Espire intact. The book also states: "Mosley's claim that his peace campaign produced a large increase in membership appeared to be accurate."

Churchill also badly needed a cheap victory against fascism. And more than one delegate to the Labour Party 1940 Conference has noted that OM's imprisonment was a requirement of their entering the Wartime Coalition Government. They had never forgiven OM for rejecting International Socialism in favour of British Socialism.

The book also enters the area of membership speculation that seems to fascinate researchers. Skidelsky thought a late thirties peak of 40,000. Thurlow agrees with another writer that 20 to 25,000 is more likely. The real BU membership figures were never meant to be made public and those who know must respect the Leader's wishes. Suffice it to say that the true figures would astound and confound these speculators with their calculators.

'Mosleygate' - 35 years before 'Watergate'

The most valuable aspect of Richard Thurlow's book lies in the attention he draws to the Watergate-style information gathering methods employed by Government agents against BU and the cover-up of evidence that goes on to this day. He seems to have discovered independently from COMRADE researchers that all but a handful of the 750 188 detainee personal files have been officially "lost". Many other BU files remain closed too. The reasons for this "probably relate to unorthodox and possibly illegal methods used by MI5 in obtaining information about Mosley and the organisation" which "suggest certain MI5 operations are being covered-up." Details are also given of the "Gestapo" methods used on BU detainees at the Latchmere House Concentration Camp near Richmond Park under its sadistic half-German Commandant.

BUF - 'patriotic Englishmen'

Richard Thurlow is highly critical of very many aspects of British Union and Oswald Mosley. However, he believes that one "can accept at face value the genuine political idealism, even if it was naive, of some who supported Mosley in the 1930s. Most Fascists were also patriotic Englishmen." "Many members of the BUF performed valiant service for Britain's armed forces during the war." Mosley "devoted his life to politics for a twofold purpose: to ensure that the useless slaughter of the First World War was not repeated, and that the survivors of that horrific experience should live in a better world. These were far from ignoble aims." There are, however, a few factual mistakes. William Joyce did not resign from BU. He was expelled. A letter sent by Joyce at the time to every BU branch and a response from NHO make this clear. OM never invited Colin Jordan to become a National Organiser of Union Movement in 1962.

Our future from the past

Above all, when reading this generally excellent book, one is reminded of the heroism and superhuman sacrifices of so many Blackshirts in their attempt to prevent war, overcome unemployment, oppose corruption and combat appalling conditions in areas like East London. Today, the spectre of an even more horrible war hangs heavily upon us. unemployment runs even higher and whole areas of large cities

THE EMERGING TRUTH

British Union on the march



"far from ignoble aims".....
.....Richard Thurlow

CHANGING ATTITUDES Historians and the BUF

By PETER MARCY

THE obvious first duty of a historian is to discover the facts. Yet until Professor Skidelsky produced his 1975 biography of Mosley, historians were content to repeat ad nauseum glaring untruths that could have been nailed by an intelligent 14-year-old. I was reminded of this when I read, yet again, in a recently published reference book that after the "Battle of Cable Street", the BUF lost all support in the East End.

Skidelsky's intellectually honest book proved to be a crucial turning point. In the dozen years since it was published a dramatic change has taken place in the attitude of historians towards the BUF.

Just how much judgments have altered can be seen from the following extracts from Stephen Cullen's lengthy article in the latest issue of the "Journal of Contemporary History": "The Development of the Ideas and Policy of the British Union of Fascists, 1932-40".

● Cullen begins his article by pointing out that until Neill Nugent's analysis was published in 1977 in The British Right, the BUF's ideas and policy had been almost totally ignored; "Nugent divided the various elements of BUF thought into five sections, namely: the speeches and writings of Mosley; the contributions of the "inner core" of the BUF's hierarchy; the periodic publications of the movement; the speeches and writings of the lesser leaders of the movement; and, finally, all other pronouncements".

● "The BUF's appeals to its members tended less to rhetorical flamboyance and more to solid British patriotism and

Page 5 ➡

are laid waste by the failure of multiracism. So we ask: Where are the men and women, seeking inspiration from the past but with eyes fixed firmly on the future, who will add their own ideas and dedicate themselves to raising the standard of a historic mission to make Britain and Europe the envy of the world? The last words are the Leader's: "More than ever in this the greatest of all ages of decision are these men and women needed."

● Richard Thurlow is Lecturer in Economic and Social History at the University of Sheffield.

THE MOSLEY SOUND HERITAGE



"OUR aim is Europe a Nation. Our creed is European Socialism. This is the coming brotherhood of the European. I stretch out my hand to you, my old and my new companions. Together we will build as a great reality the world of which men have dreamed".

In these uncompromising but emotive terms Oswald Mosley spoke of his faith in European Union when making a

< page 4 Changing Attitudes

the virtues of the "team-spirit". In this the BUF placed itself firmly within the traditional mould of British Politics, eschewing the pseudophilosophic and romantic tone of continental fascism for repeated appeals to established British values and beliefs".

* "The BUF's plans did not stop at an economic revival of Britain: rather the goal was the creation of a new fascist man. His creation was to be the task of the movement in power, and he would embody the fascist virtues of duty, order, hierarchy, loyalty, and the morality of the Spartan's".

* "Patriotism was a hall mark of the BUF from the outset, as with all fascist movements. For many Blackshirts, it was the BUF's love of country and Empire that was the deciding factor in their adherence to the movement".

* "The BUF saw itself as embodying all the essentially British virtues of the past, whilst at the same time holding all the necessary virtues for a truly "scientific" and modern future".

* Cullen stresses that the influence of the BUF's many ex-servicemen was "drastically different" from that of its European counterparts, and the "The peculiarly 'pacifistic' nature of the BUF is an element of the movement's ideology that has been little considered....".

* "Young men and women joined the BUF in order to identify with the patriotic sacrifices of the war generation, and help them fight for material recognition. Indeed, the sacrifice of the war generation was a constant theme in the BUF's propaganda. In this the movement was, in effect, portrayed as the resurrected spirit of the war's fallen".

* Contrasting the BUF's attitude with that of the continental fascists, Cullen says: "...the glorification of war and violence was not to be found amongst the ideas of the BUF. It is true that the movement valued the comradeship, self-sacrifice and loyalty that the mutual suffering of war is generally believed to breed, but war itself was seen as the result of economic and political chaos, an evil to be avoided if at all possible. Mosley himself believed that the Great War was primarily a result of unregulated and anarchic competition for markets".

* "Defence was a vital interest of the BUF... It was the British ex-servicemen's outlook that dominated British fascism's approach to the questions of peace and war. Fascism was designed, in their eyes, to save the youth of Britain from another conflict like the Great War".

* "By 1938, and with the publication of Tomorrow We Live, the international financiers were identified as playing a central part in the economic decline of Britain and its Empire. "Financial democracy" had become the chief enemy of

recording "Home and Foreign Policy" released as a 12 inch 78 R.P.M. disc in 1950. Compared with the few British Union sound releases, Mosley's post-war Union Movement is well served by recordings, thanks to the early donation of a "Sound Mirror" tape recorder and a subsequent "Grundig" model. In 1956 at the height of the Hungarian uprising it was possible to edit from his speech at the Wilmot Street School, Bethnal Green, memorable and passionate highlights onto a 10 inch 78 R.P.M. release. "We talk of the spirit of Europe. We give it form and idea in a new thing which can be the greatest civilisation that mankind has ever known. But the spirits there already living in the heart and in the blood of brave peoples. Then these clowns, these mad donkeys, these strutting posturing boobys in Whitehall, blundering in a fit of childish vanity and striking down in dust and blood that immortal heroism. My friends let us say here together tonight we do not forget, we go on to victory".

BY ROY CUMMINGS

For the packed East London audience on that cold, damp November evening it is acknowledged in hindsight that this was perhaps the greatest speech Mosley ever made in the history of Union Movement. Within days the first release was sold out. At least two further orders were placed for pressings to meet the unprecedented demand. Even a test L.P. record was made but not released. Much of its success must be accounted by the on site recording instead of an acoustically correct but dead sound studio.

'The Voice they cannot Silence'

By this time long playing records were becoming generally available giving over thirty minutes playing time instead of the previous constrictive maximum of four minutes per side. In February 1957 two 12 inch L.P.'s were released of Mosley's Finsbury Town Hall meeting. These are now thought to be the first political speeches ever released in extended form. Its success led to the release of a 10 inch L.P. "A Statement of Policy" made in June the same year. From this point on nearly all of Mosley's public speeches were recorded,



The public address van supplied by Sound Transmission which toured with Mosley's inaugural speech recorded at the first Union Movement Conference. The disc of this important speech cannot now be found.

Britain, and the emphasis was clearly upon the role of the international capitalists who had brought down the only two governments which had looked as if they might oppose them....".

* Cullen rightly states that: "...the roots of Mosley's fascism may be found, as Nugent argues, in the writings of Britons like Robert Blatchford and Joseph Chamberlain" and that "there are certain similarities between the BUF's policies and Blatchford's ideas, that are too great for mere coincidence.

Cullen mentions that some of Blatchford's Merrie England socialists joined the BUF, but he is probably unaware that several of Blatchford's own relatives were among them. It is generally

including street meetings during the 1959 North Kensington election. By 1964, L.P. releases were proving of great worth in facing up to the increasing reluctance of politically motivated councils to rent halls, the one honourable exception being Kensington where on 18th November 1964 it was possible to record and later release an L.P. "The Voice they Cannot Silence".

Rhodesian Crisis release

During the Rhodesian crisis two 45 R.P.M. discs were made of Mosley's view of events. The marketing was limited and proved to be the last discs to be released. Considerable capital was always necessary to produce these records. The money often coming from generous sympathisers. The uncertainty lay in calculating demand. A large single order for pressings might be reasonably cheap but could have left the Movement with a pile of unsold copies. With the introduction of cassette tapes the production can now easily be matched to demand. The post-war Mosley sound inheritance is secure. But even with the increased awareness of the historical importance of Mosley's voice some recordings cannot be traced.

'Pageant of the Drum' loss

The founding speech of Union Movement at Wilfred Street School Victoria, 7th February 1948 is the most tragic loss. The entire speech and the subsequent 12 inch 78 R.P.M. release has vanished, together with "Pageant of the Drum", Lloyd Park, Walthamstow, and a New Year message from 1950. Wanstead 1951 and a May day message from 1952 are also missing. Let what remains such as the recording released 13th September 1950, inspire this and future generations to acknowledge Sir Oswald Mosley as the founding father of Europe a Nation. "Brother Europeans, enter the ranks of our movement and begin this great service. You will find men and women who have given all for this cause. Who have suffered abuse, ruin and imprisonment. Who have dedicated lives for a great belief. You have the spirit if you belong to the best of the British. Come to our brotherhood and strive for the coming victory".

* LATE NEWS * 18B FILES

AN old comrade, interned 18B, and whose record of activity in BU was such as to believe that his personal file would be of some interest to historians, has been informed by the Home Office, after a personal request, that his file has been destroyed as it was not of historical interest!

There are over a hundred names in this issue of Comrade-the servicemen and the men at Camp X. Four of these have files on view at the Public Records Office.

Presumably, the rest have also been destroyed. 'Not of historical interest! WHO DO THEY THINK THEY'RE FOOLING?

forgotten that Blatchford witnessed the birth and forcible extinction of the BUF: he lived for 52 years after he founded the Clarion, dying in 1943, at the age of 92!

Members of the BUF would wholeheartedly agree with Robert Blatchford's statement in "Britain For The British" that: "Today the British race is deteriorating, and the nation is in danger because of the greed of money-seekers and the folly of rulers and of those who claim to teach".

● Stephen Cullen

is a research student at Nuffield College, Oxford, working on the BUF



South African Visit

by DIANA MOSLEY

SOUTH AFRICA is just about as different from the country we read about in the newspapers as OM was different from descriptions of him by the same sort of journalists.

It is not only a beautiful country, especially the Cape, but has a perfect climate, and an air of great prosperity. It calls itself "a world in one country", and that may be one reason why sanctions have so little effect.

I managed to go to the black town, Soweto, and spent several hours there, seeing creches, youth clubs, shops, and playing fields, but above all, the new housing.

Since I was there more than twenty years ago, thousands of houses have been built, and they are extremely nice. No more tin roofs - they are now all tiled. We saw one shanty town and were told it was to be pulled down as soon as a new housing estate is finished for the inhabitants to go to.

All this is a wonderful achievement, never mentioned in the Press. Soweto is enormous, twenty five square miles. In 4 hours I did not see a single policeman. There are many advertisements for vodka and other drinks. Drunkenness is a problem, and fuels violence. But neither there nor in Johannesburg or Cape Town did I see I see a single person, black or white, who looked poor, badly dressed, or ill-fed.

This must be unique in Africa. Petty apartheid has gone, so have the Pass Laws. There were as many black clients as white in my hotel.

Of course there are very serious problems, but in spite of sanctions and tire-some bishops who love publicity, I came away with a feeling of cautious optimism.

British Union Day

MAY DAY BUFFET SUPPER

On Saturday May 2nd, almost forty-seven years after the wartime banning of BRITISH UNION, friends of MOSLEY gathered in London to remember BRITISH UNION Day

Present were ex-District Leaders from North and South London, former officials from town and country districts, Branch Organisers from the post-war struggle, sons and daughters of Blackshirts, and the rank and file members who were always the Movement's greatest strength. They were joined by those too young ever to have heard the Leader speak but sharing an admiration for the ideas and example of OSWALD MOSLEY that transcends time and generation. Many more were there in spirit that evening as the messages from absent friends read by John Christian clearly told.

He began by speaking of the fellowship and research work now being carried out by the Friends of O.M. and Comrade. They were drawing together the forces of the Mosley Movement dispersed by time, and recording the real events behind a unique chapter in the British story. These were the men and women who a recent author had described as joining in a 'Mutiny against Destiny'.

"We young Blackshirts of the 30's knew we were locked in a challenge to destiny in a fight which we might not win. History shows that once a great Empire begins to decline, the descent becomes unstoppable. Spanish, Roman, Egyptian, Greek. They all went - 'not for a little, but for all time'

Above the ferocity of the battle with the forces of Mob and Money that raged against us, this was our ultimate rallying call, and it may not yet be too late. To Britain we remain true".

Messages from absent friends followed, including Lady Mosley's to 'My dear old friends and comrades' wishing a very happy party, and 'hoping to see you all in November'.

The last word from absent friends was inevitably the most moving. In total silence that familiar but unexpected voice arriving from the back of the room: "My Brother Blackshirts...". From the disc made by OM in 1938, four words from this eloquent appeal seemed to have a special meaning for the evening. "The power to endure". We had endured!

The next speaker, ROBERT SAUNDERS OBE, a leading authority on agriculture and a pre- and post war organiser for the Movement in Wessex, commended COMRADE's work in recording the history of British Union and Union Movement, but its greatest value would be to provide inspiration from the past for great achievement in the future.

He ended with a passionately-voiced condemnation of the politicians who were responsible for the present state of Britain. The same as described by OM as the 'Will to Comfort' and 'Will to Power' types who must be superseded by the 'Will to Achievement' men.

BRITISH UNION DAY was originally proclaimed as a Springtime rebirth of the national spirit.

This year was no exception.

OLD COMRADES



'FRIENDS' IN THE NORTH

THREE old comrades are hoping to meet for the first time about 30 years when FRIENDS of OM go North for an Afternoon Buffet on Sunday 14th June.

Old Blackshirts JOHN CHARNLEY of Southport, LESLIE GRUNDY of Huddersfield, and WILLIAM WOOD of Leeds, have remained loyal friends of OM through long years of vicissitude.



John Charnley 1949

18B Trio

All political prisoners under the infamous wartime 18B Regulations, wheel-chair bound John, 78, one of four Blackshirt brothers, was British Union District Leader for Hull, and County Propaganda Officer for Yorkshire. Leslie, 82, was District Inspector for Huddersfield, and Bill, 76, District Leader for Leeds North. A day to be remembered

In Memoriam

"Hark! the sound of many voices, Echoes through the vale of ages"

BOWMAN, William James: Platting District Manchester British Union: July 1939

CAMPBELL, James H.... Manchester British Union and Union Movement: May 1952

COLE, Captain T.F., one of first officers of Burgess Hill, Sussex, British Union Died May 1939

HUDSON, Comdr C.E. OBE, RD, RNR Rtd.: District Leader Bognor British Union: detained 18B 1940: Camp Leader at Huyton: Died June 1948 as result of ill health initiated in internment.

MITFORD, Unity: sister of Lady Mosley: Died 28 May 1948

MOSLEY, Maude Lady: mother and loyal supporter of Oswald Mosley: Head of women's organisation in early days of British Union. Died 20 June 1948

TEMPLE COTTON, Rafe..... British Union Regional Inspector, Devon: Parliamentary Candidate for Exeter: interned June 1940 Died June 18 1985

THOMSON, Palmer, Aylesbury Branch British Union: In poor health when arrested 18B and had to be helped by members on to train to Liverpool: spent a short time in hospital at Walton J 11 where he died June 1940

Friends of O.M.

AFTERNOON BUFFET

In the
NORTH

Sunday 14th. June 1987

* FRIENDS of O.M. *
send Best Wishes to
LADY MOSLEY
on her Birthday, June 17th.

'Our conscience is clear. Be calm and be determined. Be loyal. Be true Britons'.

The last words from BRITISH UNION
Action 222, 6th June 1940

WANTED

WANTED FOR CASH: Items related to the political and personal life of Sir Oswald Mosley. Also sought is material on the New Party, British Union of Fascists, and Union Movement. Box C101 IOI, Orwell Court, Pownall Road, London, E8.

COMRADE

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF O.M.

No.8 AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 1987



MOSLEY'S 1939 BLACKSHIRTS

The First to Die in Action in the War
They had Tried to Prevent

Re-print
September
1987

"THE Blackshirts have carried on a long 'trench-warfare, the full story of which may one day be told in all the heroism of its unrecorded incidents' wrote a sympathetic observer in 1934. "It is the unknown Blackshirt - giving his time and leisure, his brains and his muscle, to the day-to-day struggle - who has in 12 short months succeeded in building up what is already a formidable and independent movement of the manhood of Britain".

He did not know of the sacrifices they were to make in the years ahead. Of the war which after giving their all to prevent, killed them in action in large numbers as they obeyed the call of duty, while behind their backs, the corrupt politicians who had blundered into an unnecessary war were in their panic and vindictiveness sweeping hundreds of other Blackshirts into prisons and concentration camps without charge or trial, on the lying allegation that they were potential traitors.

We shall not forget them

COMRADE lives for them and to tell their story, and on the anniversary of the 1939 tragedy we highlight those young Blackshirts - those two 'potential traitors' - the first to die in action in THEIR war, the politicians war.

WE WILL NEVER LET THEM FORGET.

British Union Roll of Honour 1939 1945

BROCKING G.T.: Aircraftman 2nd Class 546065, age 22, and 20 yr old **DAY K.G.:** Aircraftman 2nd Class 549741, both of RAF 9 Squadron: shot down in Wellington L4275 when bombing German battleships at Brunsbittel, Keil Canal, on Sept 4 1939, the second day of the War. Both were members of British Union and were ground crew who had volunteered as air gunners. Ken Day was the First Official Casualty of the War, and George Brocking the Sixth in the First Casualty list. The War Cabinet sent its congratulations to the Squadron.

THE FIRST OF MOSLEY'S YOUNG MEN TO DIE AND THE FIRST FOR BRITAIN - RIGHT OR WRONG. FOR THEM. A GREATER SACRIFICE. AND A GREATER GLORY.

RAF INVADERS CAMP X

"Smuggled out of Peel Camp 1942 by ****" says the fading pencil on this photograph supplied by a former British Union District Leader who must remain anonymous.

"I was determined to see one of my Branch officers" he said. "I got in by 'hitching' a lift in a milk wagon. At the time I was doing my flying training on the Island. The London Police were by then in charge and offered no opposition to my uninvited visit. I don't know who took the picture. I was just asked to get it out. I wonder if any of them are still around".

Another potential traitor? Our smuggler went on to survive two tours of operations - with distinction - in RAF Bomber Command.

MOSLEY'S BLACKSHIRTS

1942



BRITISH UNION Political Prisoners, Peel Concentration Camp 1942: [from left] Gannon, Windsor, Longfellow, Bunting, Hamley, Cunningham, Rev. Yate-Allen, Frith, State-Gardner, and Brocklebank.



HOW THEY DIED

RAF Squadron Wellingtons attacking German warships GNEISENAU and SCHARNHORST at Brunsbittel on September 4 1939. From the watercolour by Jon? Bates, 1940.

Discovered in a bric-a-brac shop in London in the 1960's, the painting, and the operation was the subject of a letter by the finder to the East Anglian Daily Times shortly after after COMRADE gave the first full story of the historical operation a year ago.

COMRADE has since ensured, by a letter in that paper, which circulates in the area where the Squadron was based, that the sacrifice and honour of Mosley's young men was made known to its readers, some of whom might now understand, that for those who marched with Mosley in the 1930's, 'when all lesser things were gone'.....

Patriotism WAS Enough. 2

<< HOW THEY DIED

**Brunsbüttel
raid**

Mr. — Mr. Christopher Elliott's very accurate story of the RAF No.9 Squadron's attack on the German warships Gneisenau and Scharnhorst at Brunsbüttel from their Honington base on the second day of the last war (*East Anglian Daily Times*), does require a slight amendment for historical accuracy.

The Wellington "B" Flight vic of 3, led by Flight Lieutenant I. P. Grant did survive the heavy flak, climbing into heavy cloud to make their escape, but "A" Flight, led by Squadron Leader L. S. Lamb were less fortunate. They were attacked by nine Messerschmitt fighters scrambled out of the Luftwaffe Nordholz base, forcing the Squadron Leader to jettison his bombs and escape into cloud. Of the other two Wellington's one was shot down by AA fire, and the other by Pilot Sergeant Alfred Held of 11/JG77, in what was claimed the first Luftwaffe victory of the war against the

RAF, Squadron Leader Lamb was decorated by HM King-George VI for his part in the raid a few days later, but two months later, with four of his crew that escaped at Brunsbüttel, was killed in a flying accident and buried at Honington Church with full military honours.

Ten RAF men lost their lives at Brunsbüttel, among which were Aircraftman 2nd Class K. G. Day, age 20, and Aircraftman 2nd Class G. T. Brooking, age 22, ground crew friends who had volunteered for air gunners duties and died together in Wellington L4275. Young Day's body was retrieved from the sea and buried a fortnight later at Cuxhaven Cemetery, with full military honours. Young Brooking's body was never found and his name is inscribed on the Air Force Memorial at Runnymede, one of the 20,547 World War II airman with no known grave.

I have a personal interest in those two young men, but their story is of some historical importance and a story which even nearly 50 years later has been retained under the carpet.

For Day, No. 1 and Brooking No. 6 in the First

Casualty List of the War, were members of Mosley's Blackshirts, who, although politically opposing the war for reason of not being in the true interests of the British people, had nevertheless, in the age old tradition of the British, faithfully fulfilled their duty once war had been declared, and the country put in danger. It is quite probable that if they had returned from Brunsbüttel and survived further sorties, they would, a few months later, have probably been detained as potential traitors like hundreds of their Blackshirt comrades and incarcerated in British jails and concentration camps for years without charge or trial on the decision of Labour Home Secretary, who had been a conscientious objector in the previous war at an age young enough to fight.

It is a long time ago, and although it has been said that truth is the first casualty of war, it must always be in the interests of human society that aberrations of truth be ultimately revealed.

JOHN CHRISTIAN



Sgt. Bill Austin

KRRC

**A FURTHER
TRIBUTE**

...within the Regiment.

**'We were getting everything!
Solid shot, high explosive!'**

Come 1943, we were again together in North Africa, but it was to be for the last time for Bill was killed in Tunisia. We had taken him with us into battle.

THE story on Bill Austin: (1st.Btn. KRRC, and British Union-killed in action Tunis 10 May 1943.) A very nice tribute to ONE of many hundreds of thousands of wonderful young men who died needlessly in an unnecessary war - AT LEAST ONE who has not been forgotten!.

We must never forget that we entered into war with Germany - officially - for the purpose of "Freeing Poland from tyranny".

And what has Poland had for the last 40 years or more? Freedom? If it wasn't so tragic it would be laughable.

I have seen some of the slaughter and waste of War - and whilst I have never been a pacifist, (I believe that there have been many times when one has to defend oneself against an aggressor, and there will be times unfortunately in the future). I know that we must never again allow ourselves to be "conned" into a war to satisfy the personal ambitions of ruthless politicians.

And remember. The Second World War did not leave to the future a legacy of peace.

Since 1945, the world has experienced 140 different wars and over 40 million men, women and children have died or been crippled in the process.

'RIFLEMAN'

He was one of those old comrades of whom we had lost touch, but whom we were near to making contact.

A pre-war member of Epping Branch, Ken had originally joined British Union at its Berlin Branch where he was a film script-writer with UFA.

LEN WISE (A.N.OTHER) (3)

The missing name, 'dubbed' A.N.OTHER, was of course LEN WISE whose handsome features are well known to the editor. The editor therefore has a 'red' face! He recalls the face in the picture well - one of those many nameless ones that one met 'knocking' around London pre-war. But it is over 40 years ago Len!

The editor apologises nevertheless, and make retribution by using in a future issue of COMRADE, the handsome teenage grey-shirted figure of Len as a Leader of the Blackshirt Cadets!

MORE ON CAMP X ...May/June COMRADE**POLITICAL PRISONERS OF****C.B.CUTHBERT-SMITH (I)**

WHAT a pleasure to see the tall, imposing figure of C.B.CUTHBERT-SMITH in the picture of Political Prisoners of Camp X in your last issue. Actually, his full name was CHARLES CUTHBERT BAYNES SMITH. Although I was not born until well after the war ended, I was privileged to know him quite well in the last three years of his life up to 1981, when he died aged 82.

Cuthbert Smith was a fearless patriot. He hailed from Oxford and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant into the Infantry in August 1917. For two years he served in France and Italy. In 1939-at 40-he joined the Army Supplementary Reserve and also applied to become an A.R.P. officer.

Previously, in the thirties, he had taught at schools in Germany, and had returned home convinced that war must be avoided at all costs. His action was to join Mosley and campaign for peace in British Union. The result? - his internment under 18B.

Following his incarceration, Cuthbert Smith taught in this country - I think at Douai - and then took "the path to Rome" by becoming ordained as a priest at the turn of the 'fifties'. Following his retirement as a parish priest, he spent the last few years of his life in Liss Forest, Hampshire, at the home of Rosine de Bouneville, the Editor of Candour - the journal founded by A.K.Chesterton.

Fr.Cuthbert was a refined and agreeable man, who maintained standards of courtesy of the highest order. He never apologised for his 'past' and indeed maintained a puckish good humour in his reminiscences, although his very natural humility caused him to refrain from such recollections unless pressed. I recall several long and fascinating conversations with him about home and international affairs, and he certainly kept troth with the ideals of "the best of the British".

CHRISTOPHER GILBERT

K.T.DUTFIELD (2)

We have learned since our last issue, of the death last December of KEN DUTFIELD.



by
Robert Saunders O.B.E.

READING HIS BOOK, "THE GREATER BRITAIN" in 1933 converted me to Oswald Mosley and his cause. It contained so much towards which my mind had been working over two or three years, and in other respects it crystalised my thinking where it had previously been muddled.

It contained much common sense and profound thinking on a whole range of subjects, making a strong and favourable impression. But as a farmer in the midst of a deep agricultural depression, it was his policy for farming which made a deep personal appeal.

It gave a gleam of hope in a time of utter black despair.

Conservative betrayal

O.M. called this policy Autarky. In simple terms it proposed to exclude imports of foreign food and double the output of British farms to replace it, thus feeding Britain from the production of her own agriculture, and that of her Empire. Unlike the outpourings of other politicians this was no shallow and facile policy designed merely to attract the support of those involved in farming. What made it convincing was that it was an essential part of a profound economic philosophy, designed to cure Britain's economic ills. The Greater Britain made clear that the Conservative Party, which farmers had traditionally supported, was no longer the party of the countryside, but the party of the City of London. The City wanted imports of food in order to obtain interest on their huge investments overseas. It was this domination of Britain by the international financiers that was the root cause of much of Britain's economic problems.

The failure to adopt this, as so many other aspects of MOSLEY's policy, cost Britain dear, and not only in economic terms. She was nearly brought to defeat in her unnecessary war by starvation. The hurried and costly campaign to 'plough for victory' almost failed, as in many parts of England there was quite literally no one who remembered how to plough. Old men had to be found, often from another part of the country, to teach the younger generation this most basic form of husbandry. Such was the cost of neglecting agriculture for so long.

War and the food shortages, and balance of trade problems that followed it, forced the politicians to rely on an expanded British agriculture and thus to some extent adopt MOSLEY's policy. But they did so reluctantly and without any conversion to a policy of Autarky.

The founders of the European Economic Community shared some of MOSLEY's ideas. They believed in a United Europe that would be an economic entity with control over its own affairs. The standard of living of its people would be protected from being undermined by cut-price imports. They established a Common Agricultural Policy, designed to provide an adequate and secure supply of food from Europe's own farms. CAP was also designed to raise the income of those who worked on the land to levels comparable to the non-farming population, while at the same time releasing manpower from agriculture to industry, which at that time was desperately short of workers.

AUTARKY

His Policy for FARMING

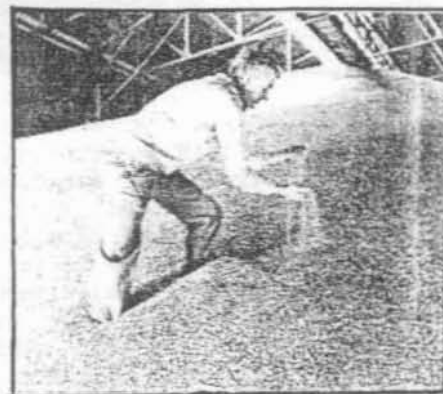
It was all too much for our British politicians and their City masters. They opposed the whole concept. They were still wedded to world trade. For years they tried to ignore the E.E.C., until their own inadequacies had got Britain into such difficulties that they felt that possibly Europe might rescue them. They then went through the humiliating process of begging to be allowed to join.

Once in they showed themselves to be less than loyal members of the Club. They demanded their subscription be reduced and that they should be allowed to break the rules. Imports of food from outside the E.E.C. into Britain must still be permitted. A special relationship with the U.S.A. must take precedence over a United Europe, which in any case should be no more than a loose association rather than an integrated whole. While some restriction on imports was tolerated, world trade must reign supreme.

The City's interests must be protected.

'Compromise and muddle'

The tragedy is that the E.E.C. is controlled by lesser men than MOSLEY, by lesser men even than its founders. It is the politicians of the new countries that take the policy decisions. As is usual with little men, they never take anything to its logical conclusion: compromise and muddle are their hallmark. As a result even the CAP is being discredited.



Europe's food mountain fiasco

Mountains of surplus food have been built up and are put into costly stores where they deteriorate. These mountains are the result of several factors. One is the amazing improvement in the productivity of European agriculture over recent years. A second is the muddled attitude towards imports. In the 1930's, MOSLEY's policy on imports of food was clear cut: they would be excluded. Tariffs, he said, tax the consumer, and quotas enabled the foreigner to charge a higher price. The present masters of the E.E.C. are not so decisive. With a cereal "surplus" of 15 million tonnes, they import 17 m.t. or cereal substitutes. With a surplus of butter, some of which they sell to Russia at knock down prices, they import some 178,000 tonnes from New Zealand to add to the mountain. Africa cannot possibly feed her expanding population, but a disunited Europe with a huge surplus of food cannot devise the means of sending it to Africa without disrupting the indigenous production.

So our politicians have learned nothing. The remarkable thing about MOSLEY is that his ideas are as valid today, within the framework of the E.E.C. as they were so many years ago in the context of Britain and her then Empire. The more remarkable thing about our politicians is that they are as deaf to such ideas now as they were then.

What an amazing man OSWALD MOSLEY was! And what a tragedy for Britain and for Europe that he was not permitted to put his policies into practice.

*Dorset farmer BOB SAUNDERS has held a number of senior posts in the National Farmers Union, and was British Union District Leader for Dorset West.

'A second related characteristic of Mosley that appealed to Bevan was his fighting quality'.....



PETER MARCY on Nye Bevan

I HAVE always wondered why Nye Bevan's 1948 description of his Tory opponents as "lower than vermin" caused such a rumpus. He was quite capable of describing his own socialist colleagues in such abusive terms - and probably did. His fiery wife Jennie Lee was given to making equally offensive remarks. In April 1951 when the future Speaker of the House, George Thomas, suggested gently to Jennie Lee that she should persuade Nye not to resign from the Cabinet, she became furiously angry and replied: "You yellow-livered cur! You're just like all the rest! You're another MacDonald or Snowden. Go away from me!" This was in the Chamber of the House of Commons.

In his latest book, NYE BEVAN AND THE MIRAGE OF BRITISH SOCIALISM (Weidenfeld, £15.95) John Campbell, author of highly-acclaimed biographies of Lloyd George, Roy Jenkins and F.E. Smith, provides the first scholarly reassessment of the politician who might well have succeeded Attlee as Labour Party Leader had he not made so many unforgivable personal attacks on his colleagues. Campbell concludes that Bevan's life "must be written down finally as a failure."

Readers of COMRADE will naturally be more interested in Bevan's early relations with MOSLEY than in the rest of this long account of Nye's part in the Labour Party's "eternal civil war". These relations receive full and perceptive treatment.

A class-war Marxist

Nye was a class-war Marxist who believed in "the iron laws of historical determinism." For him, capitalism would inevitably be superseded by socialism. His conviction that, as socialism is the next stage in society's evolution it should be achieved in a lawful manner through Parliament, is not shared by his present-day successors. The new Hard Left of the late Nineteen Eighties are quite prepared to use "extra-Parliamentary action" to achieve power. As John Campbell puts it, Nye was a Marxist who believed in Parliament, while the new Hard Left are "essentially Leninists; they believe in the party."

On 30 May 1929, 31-year old Nye became Labour MP for Ebbw Vale. At first

he was loyally supportive of MacDonald but after the Wall Street Crash when unemployment rose above 2 millions, Nye's "patience began to run out". "Only one Minister appeared to have either the will to tackle the crisis or any idea how to go about it - the dashing, thirty-three-year-old baronet, the Labour Party's most sensational capture from the Tories, its rising star and widely predicted future leader, incongruously appointed by MacDonald to be Thomas's number two in the search for an unemployment policy: Sir Oswald Mosley. For all their enormous difference of background, Bevan was immediately attracted to Mosley's programme. Their brief association - the short-lived congruence of two men who within a few years would embody almost the opposite ends of the British ideological spectrum - is one of the most important and revealing episodes in Bevan's career...."

Drawn to Mosley

"Three things drew him [Bevan] to Mosley in 1930. The first and simplest was an overwhelming desire, in a situation where textbook socialism was ruled out, to do something or anything to tackle the nearly 50 per cent unemployment that was now affecting his constituents. Mosley was the only man in the Labour Party who seemed to offer action of any sort. A second, related characteristic of Mosley that appealed to Bevan was his fighting quality... Above all, already in the twenties he was denouncing the complacency of the House of Commons in just the same apocalyptic terms which Bevan was to use, endlessly and without effect, throughout the thirties...."

Mosley - man of action

"Most important, however, Bevan found in Mosley's ideas a view of the world which, though derived from a very different starting point, closely paralleled his own... Having fought in the war, Mosley despised the older generation whose bungling had caused it. Self-consciously a modern, his vision of society was rational, 'scientific', even futuristic... What Bevan responded to in Mosley was the recognition, for which he looked in vain from his 'socialist' leaders but which Keynes, Lloyd George, Harold Macmillan and others in both the bourgeois parties were beginning to grasp, that the age of laissez-faire was dead...."

"Bevan never recanted his support for Mosley's ideas"

After Mosley's resignation from the Cabinet, Nye "took the lead in gathering signatures for a motion, worded to maximise support, calling for a more vigorous policy..." In December 1930 Nye collaborated with Mosley, Strachy and W.J. Brown in drafting the Mosley Manifesto, Mosley's last effort to get his ideas accepted within the Labour Party. "Nye supported Mosley loyally right up to the time that Mosley abandoned Labour in disgust, to the New Party. "Bevan never recanted his support for Mosley's ideas" says Campbell.

Despite their very different social backgrounds - Nye had left Serhowy Elementary School on his 13th birthday to work in a coal-mine for 1s4d a day - Nye and Mosley had much in common. They were both very great orators. They were also great fighters. And most important of all, both were men of honour: neither was prepared to sacrifice principle for personal advantage. Mosley resigned Ministerial office in 1930 on the unemployment issue and Nye resigned in 1951 on the issue of Health Charges.

What did Nye mean when he declared at Labour's 1945 Election Victory Rally that Mosley was a man who "would never be finished"? Perhaps he had in mind Mosley's philosophical belief in an indomitable human spirit, an élan vital, a life force that would enable Man through conscious striving to reach a higher evolutionary stage - that would eventually transform him into Superman.

RESEARCHERS BEWARE!

I WAS immediately interested recently when I came across a newish book of reference: Longman's Dictionary of 20th Century Biography (Martin House Books Ltd, a Division of the Longman Group, published 1985).

Its introduction suggested that it was "a work not of investigation or of interpretation but of reference, and as such is conceived on new lines... There is need therefore for a new reference system. It must be reliable however, and this in the main unpretentious prose".

It is certainly conceived on 'new lines'. Turning to SIR OSWALD MOSLEY, I found the usual earlier data general to most good reference books, but as we arrive at the 1930's I discover that "The BUF" was "eventually a collection of right-wing thugs" But when I discovered that Mosley's "3rd wife was Lady Diana Mitford" it raised doubts on the use of the book as a quality work of reference.

Disturbed at this departure from the standards of quality reference works, I took it up with Lord Briggs, Provost of Worcester College, Oxford who was named Consultant. Disacknowledging responsibility, he maintained that his was mainly "to deal with subjects and balance", and was "not involved in detail with the entries". He did however promise to pass my letter to the publisher.

Further consultations with the publishers have resulted in a statement from Longman's that they are "taking seriously" the points raised concerning Sir Oswald Mosley, and "will see what alterations need to be made" when the book is reprinted. A letter of apology to Lady Mosley - who will no doubt be intrigued by the missing wife - is now awaited.

THE BRITISH UNION FILM GROUP

BRITISH UNION OF FASCISTS

This film
has been passed for
general exhibition +

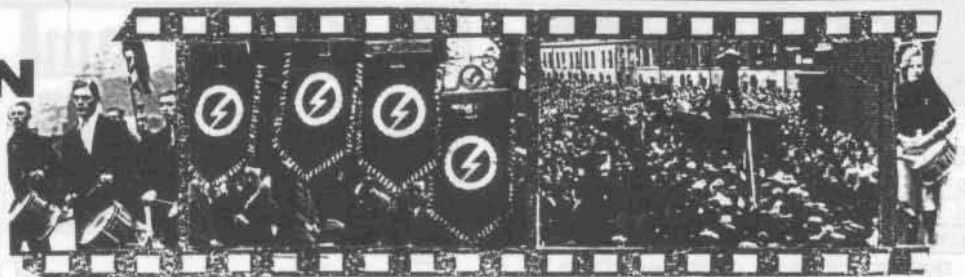


BUFA

FROM its earliest days, MOSLEY's BRITISH UNION OF FASCISTS complimented its political work with organised sporting and social events based on the growing network of branches. One activity that was thought to have great potential in attracting new members, were film shows. Initially this consisted of screening classics such as "Metropolis", "Faust", and "The White Hell of Pitz Palu" preceded by the branch organiser giving a short resume of current events and appealing for new recruits.

It was soon recognised that interest could be strengthened by including film of British Union activities. In late 1933, Milan Branch was shown marching and laying a wreath on the Cenotaph, and included a boxing match between NHQ and Kingston Branch. Later, MOSLEY was seen at his desk with Dr. Robert Forgan. A NHQ report at the time stated "It is hoped that when films are shown they will be of great propaganda value, and will materially assist branches all over the country by a means impossible by word of mouth or literature".

It proved to be correct. The enthusiastic response encouraged the amateur film makers to film the march and subsequent meeting at the Royal Albert Hall on 22nd April 1934. Three weeks later this major event was given a screening in the presence of the Leader to G. Ward Price of the Daily Mail, ("I know these Dictators"), Major F. Yeats Brown, (Bengal Lancer), and senior officers of the Movement, including Bill Risdon, Archie Findlay,



Rex Tremlett, and Neil Francis Hawkins. Accompanied by the BUF Military band and disc recordings of the meeting, all present gave this silent film unqualified approval.

The group now felt confident to advance a technical stage further. A South London Mosley Meeting resulted in the first BUF synchronised speech film being unveiled at the Oxford Film Society in December 1935. Later, in October 1936, a further step forward was made with part of MOSLEY's East London March and inspection of members filmed in colour.

The enthusiastic volunteers were by this time calling themselves 'The BUF Film Group', filming on a mixture of 9.5 and the more expensive 16mm gauge. All was determined by the preparedness of members to use their own equipment and donations. As stated in Action at the time, "The production of films is a costly affair for which there is little or no return in financial terms. The group is working without capital of any kind. While the activities of the film unit has the enthusiastic support of NHQ, it is entirely a self supporting, independent unit and its resources are limited to the voluntary assistance given by members".

by ROY CUMMINGS

Despite these strictures, the group went on to make documentaries such as 'The Royal Mint Affair', 'The Gathering Storm', 'Peace and People'. They provided shows at nominal cost to branches all over the country, and efforts were made to include local events. Manchester, Hull, Liverpool, Newcastle, and the sixth anniversary meeting at Hammersmith were all covered. During this period some of Mosley's meetings were filmed by Cinema Newsreels, but more often than not did not reach the screen. Olympia, Mosley's reply to Cable Street, and

the March to Bermondsey were just three major events banned from the cinema screens.

Despite so many problems and the ad-hoc nature of the group many events were filmed during its six year history, but regrettably not one of the BUF films mentioned survive. Without exception, everything has been lost. The chances of finding any film after fifty years is remote indeed. A disturbing fact in the history of MOSLEY and his struggle to bring order to the country he loved.

OLD COMRADES: Help to recover Mosley's lost film heritage: Please search your minds and your attics. J.C

A MAN

I want to walk by the side of a man
Who has suffered and seen and knows:
Who has measured his pace on the
battle line
And given and taken the blows.
Who has never whined when the scheme
went wrong,
Nor scoffed at the failing plan -
But taken his dose with a heart
of trust
And the faith of a gentleman;
Who has parried and thrust and
sought and given,
And scarred with a thousand spears -
Can lift his head to the stars of
of heaven
And isn't ashamed of his tears.
I want to grasp the hand of the man
Who has been through it all and seen,
Who has walked with night of an
unseen dread
And struck to the world machine;
Who has borne his breast to the wind
of dawn
And thirsted and starved and felt
The sting and the bite of bitter
blasts
That the mouths of the foul have
dealt;
Who was tempted and fell and rose
again
And has gone on trusty and true,
With God supreme in his manly heart
And his courage burning anew.
I'd give my all - be it little or
great
To walk by his side today.
To stand up there with the man who has
known
The bite of the burning fray.

resquin

Action 15 April 1939

4+ RESEARCHERS BEWARE!

The biographical details of this book were compiled by 15 named contributors, but it is not yet known who submitted the opinionated details on Mosley.

Editors are Alan Isaacs and Elizabeth Martin. Assistant Editors David Ackering and Dinah Verman.

One wonders how this offending material was overlooked by this foursome.

JOHN CHRISTIAN



A BLACKSHIRT BANDSMAN photographs by cine camera a group of Dutch and French Fascists with Mr. Neil Francis Hawkins, Director General of Organisation, at the Black House, Chelsea NHQ on October 30th 1934. The BUF's guests were to see a drill demonstration by the Blackshirt "I" Squad, who later escorted them to the Cenotaph where a wreath was laid. The two groups were in London to hear The Leader speak at the 2nd Royal Albert Hall meeting the previous night.

This recently discovered still photograph which has not been previously published, suggests that the day's events were probably filmed, and that the clip might be lying somewhere undiscovered.

MANCHESTER REUNION

SUNDAY 14 JUNE saw the first gathering of Friends of O.M. to be held outside London, when an Afternoon Buffet was held at a Piccadilly, Manchester hotel. A number of old comrades from a wide area of the North met each other for the first time for many years, their enthusiasm in the occasion being shared by a number of new friends present.

Short speeches by Council member **MIKE QUILL** on the purpose of Friends of O.M., and **JOHN CHRISTIAN**, Editor of Comrade, on the respect the newsletter was gaining in important academic and historical areas, was followed by a moving speech from **JOHN CHARNLEY** of Southport, former British Union District Leader of Hull and County Propaganda Officer for Yorkshire.

From his wheelchair, John spoke of the greatness of O.M. and his reasons for a lifetime of loyalty to his cause, and the necessity for his ideas, so relevant today, to be maintained for the benefit of future generations, and with great emotion, his great pleasure and joy to be once again among his many friends of the past.

A great occasion, with a promise for the future.

'THE SPIRIT LIVES-THE REST WILL FOLLOW'.

FRED BAILEY

Friends of O.M.

*** AFTERNOON BUFFET ***

**IN
EAST ANGLIA**

Sunday 27th September 1987



Together Again

OLD Blackshirts Lt. Leslie Grundy, former District Inspector Huddersfield; Bob Wilkinson, D/L Lincoln; John Charnley, D/L Hull and County Propaganda Officer for Yorkshire; Frank Jermy, D/L Worcester; and Bill Wood, D/L Leeds North.

All suffered wartime 18B imprisonment with charge or trial.

And like some 700 other BRITISH UNION political prisoners put away in 1940, the files of the alleged evidence for their incarceration is - in 1987, 'Lost' or 'Destroyed' in the Home Office!

In Memoriam

"Hark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages"

BOX, H. Westminster St. Georges British Union. A founder member of Cab Trade Group. On 9 August 1939.

de LAESSO, Major DSO MC. Interned 18B for 3 years including Holloway Jail with Sir Oswald and Lady Mosley, accompanied by Mrs. de Laesso. On release farmed a small holding in Norfolk with group of ex-detainees, and where after the War, despite his advanced years, played an active part in creation of Union Movement in Norwich and King's Lynn. He died in August 1948, shortly after his wife, as a result of strain and treatment under imprisonment.

EVENS, E.C. 'Eddie'. Upminster, formerly South London British Union and Union Movement. On 17 August 1986.

HART, E.D. Beckenham. British Union Research Dept. from early days. Edited Action in June 1940 after Editor and NHQ staff detained for which he was also interned. Pioneered Union Movement after the War. Died August 1950.

ROSMOND, William G. Bethnal Green Branch British Union and Union Movement. Died September 1952.

MITCHELL, Andrew N. Glasgow Branch Union Movement. Merchant Navy. Died September 1950 at sea.

WATTS, C.F. 'Charlie'. British Union District Inspector, Westminster, and Organiser Cab Trade Group. Camp Leader, Ascot Concentration Camp, 1941. Died 26 August 1971, Cornwall.

WILLIAMSON, Henry NHQ Branch British Union - Author 'Tarka the Otter', 'The Flax of Dream', 'A Chronicle of Ancient Sunlight'. A true and faithful friend of Mosley and loyal British Union comrade. Until the very end, 13 August 1977.

OLD COMRADES



WELCOME to old comrade **MCNEIL SLOANE** who writes to Comrade from Australia where he has been living for some 30 years. MAC and his wife **ROSETTA** send Greetings to "all the friends who were always there during the difficult years".

Proud of his past, Mac sends a photograph in his Blackshirt uniform taken in 1934, three years after he had tied his colours to MOSLEY's cause. Joining the NEW PARTY in Warrington, then the BUF in Manchester, he was later on the staff of NHQ at St. Smith Street, Westminster, and Manchester HQ in 1940.

After his arrest under the 18B Regulations he was sent to Walton Jail, then York, and back to Huyton, escaping on the way. Recaptured he was sent to Peel Concentration Camp, Isle of Man where he spent much of his time 'tunneling under the road and was caught within 6 feet of escape, resulting in his transfer to Brixton Jail.

Quite a handful our 'Mac'!

Birthday Greetings

ARTHUR BEAVAN, Dagenham Former BU "I" Squad, District Leader, WEST HAM, and Parliamentary Candidate, UPTON. ON his 87th. September 2nd. Hail Mosley!

1924 "I" Squad



"THE SPIRIT LIVES...."

THE REST WILL FOLLOW"

WANTED

FOR CASH: Items related to the political and personal life of Sir Oswald Mosley. Also sought material on the NEW PARTY, BRITISH UNION OF FASCISTS, and UNION MOVEMENT. Box C101 101, Orwell Court, Pownall Road, London, E8.

Friends of O.M. COMMEMORATION DINNER Sat. 21st November 1987

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COMRADE



NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF O.M.

No.9 OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 1987



"SOUTH AFRICA is just about as different from the country we read about in the newspapers as O.M. was different from descriptions of him by the same sort of journalists...There were as many black clients as white in my hotel." (Comrade May/June 1987)

World War 2's 'Johnnie' Johnson.....

BANG ON TARGET



Johnnie Johnson



Fighter pilot to Air Vice-Marshall, CB,CBE,DSO,DFC,DL

BLACK MILLIONAIRES, company directors - and soon publicity seeking Winnie Mandela, wife of imprisoned terrorist Nelson Mandela, Fleet Street, Westminster, and cloud-cuckoo land's Prime Minister designate for a Black-ruled Soviet Russia dominated South Africa - are now residing in the affluent 'Beverley Hills' area of Johannesburg according to Air Vice-Marshall J.E. 'Johnnie' Johnson, the top Allied fighter pilot in Europe during World War II.

The Air-Vice Marshall confirms almost to the letter, the true situation in South Africa as described by Lady Mosley after her visit in the Spring.

"It is hardly necessary to remind you" he said, writing in *Intercom*, journal of The Aircrew Association,

of whom he is the Hon. Life Vice-President, about a recent visit, "of the notable part our South African comrades played in the last contest especially in the Western Desert and Italy.....

It is eighteen years since I lived in Johannesburg and the change as far as the Blacks are concerned is quite fantastic. In my time the Blacks were confined to menial tasks but this time I met Black millionaires and Black directors of companies who wine and dined at our luxury hotel.

The 'Beverley Hills' Blacks

At my request we toured the notorious Soweto expecting, if one believes the media, to find gangs of stone-throwing teenagers being lashed by the brutal police, an alien population and a 'necklace' party here and there. Instead we found a thriving if somewhat untidy community with a lot of BMWs and Mercedes, well-fed and well-clothed people and hundreds of sturdy nicely uniformed schoolchildren. The affluent Blacks live in the 'Beverley Hills' area and here Mrs Winnie Mandela is having a new house built.

South Africans betrayed

Because of sanctions and other restrictions our South African comrades feel abandoned and that we British have forgotten their great contribution to the victory in 1945. They believe that we support the 'Dismantling Apartheid' doctrine because it helps

retain our Black Commonwealth; whereas they know that 'Dismantling Apartheid' means the removal by force of White rule and the imposition of a Communist puppet Black government.

Our South African comrades plan another Reunion in 1989....I hope you can join us so that we can show our trusted brothers-in-arms that we have not forgotten.* — 5

COMRADE salutes 'Johnnie' Johnson, as honest and courageous with his words as he was with his wartime adversaries of whom his tally was 38 shot down in clean combat.

Loyalty to Cause and Comrades

Many of Mosley's young men served in the RAF, a high number making the supreme sacrifice and we honour them in the columns of *Comrade*. They fought and died in a war they had also fought hard to prevent and which they believed to be disastrous for Britain - as it has proved to be.

This does not mean that we honour less those who fought and died by their side in what they believed to be a just cause.

As the name of this journal suggests, we believe the bond of comradeship to be a quality inseparable from man's upward struggle to reach higher forms, and we feel with, and applaud 'Johnnie' Johnson for his unbending loyalty to old comrades.

We also do not forget them, or their betrayal by a British political party system that for at least half a century has, in their sham morality, been hell-bent on serving the interests of others unrelated by blood or culture, in preference to those of our own or kindred peoples.

We too South African comrades feel the wind of change upon our brow; the adrenalin secretions of an endangered species.

We understand. For we too now must fight. Not for any unworthy end.

JUST TO SURVIVE.

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

ARMY

BAGGS Lt. Jack P.L.: Royal Sussex Regt (Attached Gloucester Regt): Age 20: Killed in Action 3 November 1944: Buried Geel War Cemetery, Belgium: Brighton Branch, British Union: One of Brighton's three members known to have been killed in action in World War II.

Royal Air Force

GILLIES W/O John H.: RAF (VR) 511 Sqn. Age 26: Killed in operations 30 November 1943: Leytonstone Branch British Union: One of Branch's three members who joined British Union when pupils at Leyton County High School who were killed in action in the Armed Forces in World War II.

Royal Navy

WHITE Lt. Albert E.: RNVR: Killed in Action HM Trawler "Northern Rover" 5 November 1939: Age 36: Leicester Branch British Union: Commemorated on Lowestoft Naval Memorial.

For Them - A Greater Sacrifice...
And a Greater Glory.

'It must be remembered that those Blackshirts outside the barbed wire perimeters vastly outnumbered those within, and they did not forget their comrades'

BLACKSHIRT BROTHERHOOD IN WAR

THE story of the British people who while never accused of any wrongdoing, were imprisoned during the last War in blatant contravention of MAGNA CARTA, has never been satisfactorily documented.

There have been printed references to daring attempted escapes including one by detainees who almost reached Ireland in a small boat.

On the darker side, the story of MAURICE FITZGERALD, first District Leader of Dorchester Branch, BRITISH UNION, has not I believe been recorded.

On internment he was denied essential prescribed medicines. When it was too late, he was hurriedly released to die a few short weeks later.

[A good official reason why his file is 'not available' at the Kew Public Record Office. Just one of those 700 odd detainees files that have been 'lost', or 'destroyed', or closed for 50 years or more, or retained by the Home Office for 'security reasons', or to 'prevent causing distress to living persons or their descendants' !]

There is a story recorded by a German Jew interned first at DACHAU and later among British detainees at Ascot that "conditions were much worse at Ascot" [The Internment of Aliens, F.Lafitte, Penguin Press]. But for the most part, this shameful chapter of British history has been consigned to public amnesia.

It must be remembered that those Blackshirts outside the barbed wire perimeters vastly outnumbered those within, and they did not forget their comrades.

Shortly after the mass roundups of 1940, the 18B Detainees Dependents Appeal Fund was formed, later registered under the War Charities Act as the 18B Detainees (British) Aid Fund with offices at 21, Grays Inn Road, WC1. Its Chairman was George Dunlop of Limehouse Branch and popular London British Union speaker. Secretary was Mrs. P.E. Jones, and Treasurer John Jones, assisted by Committee members, E. Conner and Clifford Woodland.

'Adopt a family' campaign

The 18B Fund began by sending food parcels, clothing, tobacco and other comforts to detainees, and helping those released who were finding great difficulty in getting jobs. Neither did it forget the "suffering callously brought upon British wives and children by the removal from their homes of those against whom no crime is alleged". With these in mind, the 18B Fund also mounted an 'adopt a family of a detainee' campaign.

THE 18B DETAINEES (BRITISH) AID FUND

GEORGE DUNLOP: Limehouse District Leader, Chairman of the 18B Fund speaking in Battersea in 1938



Mosley's blessing from the 'British Bastille'

From Holloway Prison, the 'British Bastille', the Leader sent his blessing asserting "it is by far the best work his old associates can do". Unlike many of today's charities, the 18B Fund steered clear of political propaganda though a sister organisation, The 18B Publicity Council was formed to "ventilate the constitutional and moral issues arising from 18B".

Notice of the first meeting at Holborn Hall in December 1942 was marked 'details submitted to authorities - no objections'. At the same time, a special Winter Appeal was launched by the Fund for warm clothing for the detainees, and a Christmas Childrens Appeal mounted. At the end

BY GORDON BECKWELL

of the year, Dunlop was able to announce a total income of £1,325 for the previous ten months, all of which had been distributed. The next year, through donations, collections and concerts the figure had risen to £1,573.

The concerts were organised by Bill Luckin at the Kingsway Hall in October 1943 when the soprano Elsie Arnold sang. By May 1944, the programme had acquired a less cultural tone when John Charnley appeared as the 'Demon Doughnut King' assisted by Charlie Watts and Alf Flockhart !.

'A number of detainees were broken in health and died'

Meanwhile, the 18B Publicity Council was stirring the 'Democratic conscience' by reporting conditions endured by some detainees in Walton Goal Liverpool. It described 'solitary confinement in a darkened cell 9' by 5' for 23 hours a day for months on end...filthy bedding resulting in Taenia Dermatitis. It was already noting what became obvious after the War: 'as a result of privations a number of detainees were broken in health and died'. In other camps conditions were barbarious, and medical neglect widespread. Third degree

interrogation and other brutalities were commonplace at the notorious Latchmere House, Ham Common depot.

Help for dead detainees children

By March 1945, the 18B Fund was holding a dinner and dance with cabaret for 400 people at the Lysbeth Hall, Soho Square. There was still much work to be done after the end of the 'Brothers War' and on October 6th, 1945, almost the anniversary of the founding of British Union, a social evening and dance was held at the Royal Hotel, Russell Square.

In August 1945, a Notice of Winding Up of Accounts and Final Appeal was made by George Dunlop. This paid special attention to the 'upbringing of children of detainees who died so suddenly after release that one must accept their demise was accelerated by the conditions of their detention'.

During the period of its existence, the 18B Fund had given sustained assistance to 140 families, temporary assistance to over 350 cases, after-release assistance to 200, representation to Government Departments for 143, and found employment for 34 Blackshirts. Monthly sums had been provided for 180 men and women during detention and the total raised was £6,000: a sum equal to £120,000 at today's value.

Exactly what this meant to individual Blackshirt detainees is shown in a letter written in 1942 by the late Wally Porter of Salisbury - a former agricultural workers trade union leader.

"I have received a second-hand overcoat in good condition and also a pair of boots. Also they are sending me five shillings a week until I get on my feet again which is a great help, believe me".

The final event was a Christmas Gathering on December 15th, 1945 at the Royal Hotel, Russell Square where, for the first time for 5 years, THE LEADER was reunited with his comrades in scenes of wild enthusiasm. The number of ex-detainees was swelled by Blackshirts now home from the services to an attendance of 3,000: a figure that caused some alarm to the Labour Government. After this, Blackshirt endeavour was to pass into the hands of dozens of Mosley Book Clubs up and down the country which prepared the ground for the day the Leader again raised his standard at the formation of Union Movement in February 1948.

On important occasions during that second attempt to reverse the decline of Britain and Europe, pre-war members were often seen wearing the Steel, Bronze, and Gold Distinction Badges awarded to British Union members for 'service and devotion to the Cause'.

Alongside them was the less distinctive '18B' Badge, but none less proudly worn.

A 'Campaign Medal' which, through the inhumanities of man to man released by a war they had sought to prevent, some did not live long enough to wear.



ALEXANDER RAVEN THOMSON: Canvassing in the LCC Elections in 1937 when, with Mick Clarke, he achieved 23% of the votes for British Union.

TO all of us in the Movement, Raven, was comrade, counsellor, and friend.

Recalling the hours spent with him, after street meetings, especially in the old Hogarth coffee shop at Earls Court.

When he was speaking, the whole place would be silent. He would talk on philosophy, on the works of *Socrates* and *Plato*, and the very vital matters of the European crisis. Always, the talk would be of the realities behind the party strife; with his own vision, a syndicalist union of Europe.

He would speak of his travels in Europe, as a young man; and I particularly remember one of his vivid descriptions, the city of *Buda Pesth*, - the bridge across the river there; and his intensely felt sadness that those lands and vistas were shut away behind the iron curtain. I can hear now his voice, the way he always accented his words: the Scotsman's 'iron' curtain.

'His loyalty to Mosley never faltered'

When I first met Raven we discussed *Spengler*, and he told me of his own study of the philosopher. Of his loyalty to *Oswald Mosley*, which never faltered.

Raven Thomson had a wonderful comprehension of all the Roman plays of *Shakespeare*, and I can remember a special instance of this in a school hall in Harrow.

The meeting over, he talked to us of the events in Europe over the past one hundred years, and their historical context.

Turning to the ancient wisdom of the European mind, he spoke of *Caesar*, and of the accounts in *Proude* and *Mommsen*. He then quoted from memory parts of *Shakespeare's* play, and I can hear the voice now, exactly as he spoke, in that little school hall:

Brutus: 'Well then, shall I see thee again?'

Caesar, his ghost: 'Ay, at Phillipi'

Raven Thomson exemplified the scholar-soldier. He fulfilled in his life, in the Movement, the vision of *Nietzsche*, a warrior for truth.

Desmond Irvine

"This exceptional thinker emerged from the study at the age of nearly forty to become a man of action and one of the finest fighters for our cause we ever knew."

Oswald Mosley "My Life"

'RAVEN' - PRESENT!



ON this 32nd Anniversary of RAVEN THOMSON'S death, we salute a very special old comrade, still in spirit with us, urging us ever onward in the pursuit of MOSLEY'S high purpose.

DRINKING a cup of insipid wartime tea in a small cafe in Victoria during the war, I was attracted to a lonely-looking figure perched on a stool who was obviously in a state of nervous prostration.

There was something about that pale thin face that stirred memory. Suddenly it came - but no - this shadow of a man - Raven Thomson? No, no - it cannot be.

I was only recently out of the Army, and completely out of touch with any of the banned *British Union* members, and had not seen Raven since 1939, but the more I thought, the more sure I was it was he.

I went over and introduced myself and he looked at me with disbelief, and agitation. Of course he did not know me. Why should he. A pre-war small cog in the large wheel of *British Union*.

The conversation was getting nowhere and I realised he was in a world of his own. A very sick man, and I was only increasing his agitation, so I gave him my card and left him, still sitting on his stool, perhaps waiting for his young only son who was never to return from an RAF bombing raid on Germany.

Time healed, and Raven's inner strengths restored him to a reasonable state of health, and he threw himself into *Union Movement* activity in the exuberant Raven way.

We were to work closely together both inside and outside official *Union Movement* circles and we became

"I shall mention no other black-shirts by name..... these two (*Francis-Hawkins* & *Raven Thomson*) may rest as the monument of those who died and the inspiration of those who live." OM "My Life"



British and European Patriot: Raven Thomson speaks, Trafalgar Square, 1951

close comrades. He told me about his treatment at the notorious den of psychological torture, *Latchmere House*, *Ham Common*, and he told me about his son. How he had approached him with a troubled conscience.

The son of a British father and a German mother, he wished to join the *RAF* and fight for Britain. He would accept his father's ethical judgement on what he should or should not do.

Raven had no doubt of what his son should do. He should fight for Britain.

The months passed and if there had remained any doubt of the righteousness of this father's advice to his son, the ethic was resolved one night in the flak-filled sky over the exploding cities of Germany, the ashes of this only son buried for ever in the soil of his mother's native land.

In his grief, and while still incarcerated in a British jail without charge or trial, Raven wrote to Home Secretary *Herbert Morrison* "Now do you doubt my loyalty", a question which Raven would not have normally put, for how does one expect a man who worked off his conscience in an apple orchard as a conscientious objector in the First War, and was keeping in detention without any charge hundreds of highly decorated men of that war, suddenly find anew that very convenient conscience and justly conclude that a man's loyalty is amply proved by the giving of the life of his only son to his country?

Alexander Raven Thomson, although he might momentarily not suffer fools gladly, was a man without hate. A great British and European patriot, he was also an example, if one had to find one, of the reason for existence of the human race. He was a good man, and his place in the hearts and minds of his old comrades, and in the *Mosley* story, has never been filled.

I never spoke to him about our first meeting in that small cafe in Victoria. It would have been hurtful to rekindle the painful memories of his treatment and his tragedy in that brief interlude in a world of his own.

And I do not think he remembered.

John Christian

CHANGING ATTITUDES

Historians and the BUF. 2

A prime example of the revaluation of MOSLEY and the BUF that is now taking place is RICHARD THURLOW's latest book, "FASCISM IN BRITAIN",* reviewed by Gordon Beckwell in the May/June issue of "COMRADE". Here are further extracts from this important work.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

★ Mosley was particularly critical of the moral and international approach to foreign affairs of the dominant liberal ethos, and the British obsession with the balance of power in Europe, which he saw as irrelevant to her strategic requirements. P.173

★ Mosley was later to justify his foreign policy stand in the 1930's by arguing that it was the only credible alternative which would avoid the mass slaughter of European population and would save the continent from American imperialism and Russian communism. He argued that this was a patriotic policy designed to preserve the integrity of the British Empire. P.173

BUF IDEOLOGY AND POLICY

★ After a long bitter process Mosley had discovered that the rules of the political game and the increasing conservatism of British government militated against effective action from within the political structure. Convinced of the rightness of his policies and fearful of the consequences of economic decline, Mosley became attracted to the forms of activist mass politics in an attempt to rejuvenate society. British fascism was born of the failure of economic conservatism to check the rapid decline of Britain in the inter-war years. P.36

★ (The BUF) was a movement which was a movement which was intellectually the most coherent and rational of all the fascist parties in Europe in the inter-war years. P.93

★ Raven Thomson, who was much influenced by Spengler's organic method, argued that the processes of nature were a series of biological integrations, and that with each new synthesis, old natural laws ceased to have their applications and new forms emerged; the highest form was civilisation, which was a super-biological force directing the actions of men to its higher aims, the very realisation of the Superman. Soon after writing this Thomson came to see fascism as the twentieth century expression of the will to infinitude and Mosley as the leader who would transform the world. P.155

WARTIME IMPRISONMENT

★ During the phoney war the BUF and the communist party both opposed the war. The authorities, not noted for

their belief before June 1941 that the Communists were fine upstanding patriotic gentlemen who eschewed secretive subversive activity, undoubtedly had other motives (for only interned fascists). The decision to intern fascists and to leave Communists free reflected the rise of the Labour Party to share power in a coalition government. P.195

★ The authorities certainly went over the top in manufacturing evidence for detainment and arresting double the number of fascists they were instructed to. Members were even arrested in the armed forces and interned after fighting the Germans or returning from bombing raids. P.212

★ The mass internment of both groups (aliens and fascists) in 1940 was unnecessary; they were made scapegoats by the new Churchill government which was determined to maintain collapsing morale by a show of action in the face of the Nazi onslaught in western Europe. P.165

★ ...in July 1940 the Cabinet discussed whether interned fascists should be sent to overseas camps in the Dominions or Colonies. It was decided that this was not practical when the Law Officers informed the Cabinet that the government had no power to ship British subjects overseas against their will and without trial... P.213

★ Although the home front was well under control, MI5 and its agents had to cut corners and find imaginary fifth columnists in some numbers to maintain morale... P.207

by PETER MARCY

★ Mosley's powerful mind and stimulating ideas which were usually expressed in a coherent and rational manner... Mosley's insistence on idealism and psychological roots of behaviour were to contrast with Marx's materialism. For Mosley, Marx's materialism denied man's spiritual and evolutionary potential. P.149

★ Oswald Mosley took very seriously indeed the philosophical justification for his political career. At root the BUF envisaged as the prototype of a new kind of humanity, and Mosley was a neo-Lamarckian who believed that through action and conscious striving man could create a better society. P.157

★ for Mosley and the BUF new political, economic and philosophical ideas were necessary to prevent long term trends turning into terminal decline. P.150

★ For Mosley, caesarism and science could renew the youth of western culture, and fascism was the only political system which could create a new civilisation. Without fascism, Spengler was right and Europe was doomed, a prey to the money power, its instrument democracy, and the predations of outer barbarians, particularly Russia. P.156

★ The activities of MI5 agents and the willingness of the Advisory Committee to accept uncorroborated evidence from unknown agents without giving the defendant the chance to cross-examine or allow him legal support at his hearing was a black spot in English legal history. P.207

★ It is now clear that although there were lingering suspicions, the Government and the Security Service accepted much of Mosley's explanation that his actions derived from genuine patriotic motives. P.176

★ No evidence at any stage was ever produced to show that the BUF or any other fascist group, had ever sanctioned illegal behaviour, despite the devious tricks and intimidation later applied by the Security Service during the interrogation process. P.198

★ The de-facto suspension of habeas corpus with regard to interned fascists also represented one of the darkest pages in Britain's liberal tradition; unlike the IRA in the 1940's and 1970's, the vast majority of interned fascists were British patriots not engaged in subversive or terrorist activities. P.189

★ In spite of using prison and camp warders as informants and the bugging of Mosley's cell, little of consequence was learned by the prison and internment authorities about supposed fascist treason. Indeed the prison governor of Brixton later commended BUF internees on their patriotism and their support for the RAF against the Luftwaffe in the nightly air raids. P.226

★ the released PRO material on internment and the Advisory Committee needs to be handled with a great deal of care. The stated reasons for internment in the personal files, for example, should not be taken too seriously. These were hurriedly concocted after the individuals had been arrested, and were for the most part dependant on unsubstantiated allegations, local gossip, and the use of agents provocateurs and whatever dubious insinuations could be hastily cobbled together. P.216

Gordon Beckwell has quoted Mosley's tolerance of the MI5 agent "P.G.Taylor" (James Hughes) in refutation of Thurlow's extraordinary belief that Mosley was obsessed with secrecy.

The exactly opposite criticism of MOSLEY might fairly be made: that he was far too insouciant about paid informers, spies, stool pigeons, and agent provocateurs whose identities he knew and who constituted the "absolute reliable sources" from which MI5 obtained its widely inaccurate, far-fetched and damaging reports.

* Blackwell £16

ROLL OF HONOUR

OUR BLACKSHIRT DEAD

JACK BANGS

Allotted the task of clearing the enemy out of Stampersgate, Holland in 1944, the 2nd Btn Gloucester Regt were faced with a strong point and the Germans in strength.

Young Jack Bangs, age 20, who was transferred as platoon commander from the Royal Sussex Regt only two weeks previously, was killed in a battle that also killed his Commanding Officer when Btn HQ received 3 direct hits during heavy enemy shelling of the area.

JOHN GILLIES

Starting his 3rd operation as a chief pilot of an RAF 511 Sqn Dakota, PL515, Warrant Officer JOHN GILLIES left Portreath for Gibraltar at 27 minutes past midnight on November 30th 1943 carrying eight passengers and air freight, but two minutes later the aircraft crashed into the sea. There were no survivors.

Only ten days previously he had successfully landed an Albermarle at Portreath after piloting it from Gibraltar through a violent electrical storm.

An experienced pilot, he had flown freight and important passengers to, from, and in North Africa in many operations.

He is remembered on Panel 134 of the Runnymede Memorial where 20547 with no known graves are recorded.

ALBERT WHITE

Joining the Royal Navy Volunteer Supply Reserve in May 1937, he had gained the Board of Trade Certificate before the outbreak of war when he was called up for active service.

Two months later, with the rank of Temporary Lieutenant, he was one of four officers and 23 ratings manning HM Trawler Northern Rover sailing out of Kirkwall, Orkneys on patrol. Five days later, considerably overdue, it was considered lost.

The Northern Rover, a small Naval Auxillary Vessel, 655 tons, was built as a steam trawler in 1936 by a German shipyard and registered in London by its former owners Northern Trawlers Ltd.

— I * Air Vice-Marshall Johnson

The Air Vice-Marshall had been invited by the South African Air Force Association and the Royal Air Force Association to a four-day Reunion for all aircrew and groundcrew who were trained, or stationed in South Africa and Rhodesia during the Second World War.

During the summer, Air Vice-Marshall Johnson was given the 'Freedom of Paris' at a ceremony conducted by Mon. G. Cherioux, a former Mayor of the City and now a Vice-President of the Senate.

The Leader's Birthday..1942

FROM A.CANNING, OUR ONE-TIME SPECIAL BRANCH CORRESPONDENT

IT was November 1942, British Union was a prescribed organisation, its members scattered in the Armed Forces, prisons and concentration camps, or, those who had been released, trying to survive in a world that a vindictive government saw to it that they could not obtain employment.

But there were a few in touch determined to celebrate The Leader's birthday, and on the sixteenth of that month, they made their way through the evening of a blacked-out England to a small flat in West London, the home of Captain 'Dickie' Hamer.



tained in his Army uniform while on active service prior to his detention).

After 45 years, memory can be fallible, and we are indebted to Special Branch for a detailed report of the occasion, made four days later, and now residing in the Public Record Office. (HO45/25702)!

Most of those present had been released from our British Concentration Camps including 'C. WATTS and R. HAMER' who were named organisers.

(Captain Hamer, South Wales Borderers, had been arrested and detained in his Army uniform while on active service prior to his detention).

Albert White was one of the war's earliest casualties - and like his two RAF brother Blackshirts in the First Casualty List - had died in a war they had tried to prevent.

It demonstrates again the hypocrisy and lying of Britain's politicians, who having launched an unnecessary war for which they were unprepared, they besmirched not only Mosley and his Blackshirts, but they brought dishonour to that particular British patriotism as understood by the peoples of these islands.

OBITUARY

We sadly report the death in early October of RON FREE of Islington who joined BRITISH UNION's Islington Branch at The Arcade, Nag's Head. After war service in the Army, he joined UNION MOVEMENT on its foundation becoming its Branch Leader.

Heard of FRIENDS OF O.M. he became associated just in time to attend the 1986 Commemoration Dinner where he was delighted to meet many old comrades for the first time in many years.

'British Union Standards of Westminster St. George's Branch adorned a floodlit picture of Mosley' says the report, and 'Watts and Arthur Rupert Beavan were in full Blackshirt uniform'. Speeches were made by Watts who said that 'British Union would gain nothing from a German victory'. Agnes Booth made a 'vindictive speech' and Hamer 'spoke calmly and without bitterness. He appealed for funds to assist in the legal expenses incurred in the actions being taken against the Home Secretary by detainees and £38 was raised.

The meeting ended with gramophone records of Sir Oswald Mosley's speeches, and the singing of 'Britain Awake' and the 'British Battle Song'.

Among those present were 'BOOTH, Agnes and husband; CASS, Victor; CATTELL, Corporal and mother. This man described as a guard at Ascot Internment Camp, who had been a BU sympathiser and shown favours to members of that body during their detention; GOODY, Albert Edward (husband of Elizabeth Phyllis Goody at present detained in Holloway); DOUDNEY, George Albert; JEEVES, Edmund Paul; JONES, John of Chelsea; NICOL, Thomas Young; OSBORNE Frank Arthur James and wife; SWAN, Arthur William James; WATTS, Charles Frederick; WARBURTON, Edmund and wife'.

Congratulations to the Special Branch 'mole' wherever he is, around, up there - or down there. A very accurate report - but not quite. You named the wrong brother and wife laddie.

It is believed that only three of those present that night are still with us. Arthur Beavan, now rising 88, ('Rupert' we never knew Arthur!); Arthur Swan, who was Camp Leader at Ascot; and this humble scribe - and wife. J.C.

ARMISTICE DAY 1938

'If Ye Break Faith With Us Who Died..'



SHOREDITCH British Union Ex-Service members honour dead comrades of their 'War to end all Wars' at their local cenotaph.

British Union Kept Faith They Stayed True

FOR SALE

"MEIN KAMPF" by Adolf Hitler translated by James Murphy: In 18 weekly parts published by Hutchinsons after outbreak of War in 1939, Royalty on sales to British Red X: Offers. Box S501 101, Orwell Court, Fownall Rd., London, E8

The quiet man with a secret past —



Derek Talbot Baines

Headlined the story in the "Bognor

Regis Observer" sent to us by an old comrade in Australia.

"To the people of Littlehampton" it continued, Derek Talbot Baines 69 years old, was known as a 'a quiet man', but behind the door of his 250-year-old cottage...he held a secret for 35 years. And it came out this week.

He was one of Sir Oswald Mosley's strongest supporters" and "Few knew:

★ How he joined the Blackshirts in 1933.

★ How, as a member of Mosley's elite 'I' squad, he rushed wherever trouble was expected.

★ How he became one of Mosley's approved speakers.

★ And how he was sentenced to two years' jail for his beliefs."

It claimed that Talbot Baines, "this son of a German banker - he is half English, half German", was not accepted as a conscientious objector, was arrested and sentenced to two years jail after dodging the draft, and later, in 1944, escaped from a military escort, and ever since had "dodged officialdom". Not on the Electoral Register, no National Insurance, no pension. A man without an identity.

As he was never in the Army, he could "still face a prison sentence" as he may not "benefit from the amnesty granted in 1953, when 22,000 deserters were pardoned." The Ministry of Defence was to decide what was to happen.

The chairman of a Littlehampton club where Talbot Baines was a member described him as "rather a quiet man", but a person who had known him for many years spoke of him as "quite a character to talk to. He can tell you all about the fights involving Blackshirts. He has even worn his Blackshirt into the club."

The story quotes his description of of himself as "a very powerful follower of Mosley. I was very strongly against war with Germany."

Age had 'not mellowed the views he upheld those many years ago.'

"What do we have now in this country? We have nothing."

Comrade gathered from the story that his money was running out, and we immediately set out to find him.

We found the cottage, but no Talbot Baines. It had been a long shot for the date of the cutting was 30 November 1978

For Derek Talbot Baines had passed away in the early summer of 1981, just a few short months after his beloved Mosley. Perhaps it was as in the thought of old comrade Henry Williamson. "When he is dead. And I hope I'll be dead, too."

°Friends of O.M.° IN EAST ANGLIA

ON a Sunday close to the Anniversary of the Foundation Day of BRITISH UNION, the first gathering of FRIENDS OF OSWALD MOSLEY in East Anglia was held at the Ipswich hotel which traditionally was the venue used by O.M. to meet his local supporters.

The tradition of support for Mosley goes back to British Union's active campaign for the region's farming community in the Tithe Wars of the early 1930s, and we were particularly pleased to welcome Ella Hoggarth whose farmworker husband George passed away in 1985. George, a stalwart supporter of Mosley until the very end, joined British Union's local branch after supporting Blackshirts arrested for assisting a Suffolk farmer under restraint. He became a branch treasurer and was a standard bearer at the last great indoor meeting of British Union in July 1939.

After words of welcome from Mike Quill, John Christian spoke of the importance of provincial gatherings for Friends who are prevented by health, work commitments or restricted income from travelling to London for the larger meetings. It allowed them not only to renew old friendships and meet new contacts, but to hear first-hand of FOM's work in extending knowledge of the true facts about Oswald Mosley and the Movements he led.

Ronald Creasy, who had the distinction of being elected to the Council of Eye as British Union candidate, spoke of the enduring importance of Mosley's ideas for the present and the future in the high style we have come to expect from one of the Leader's loyalist colleagues.

'Inky' Irvine continued this theme, and spoke with emotion of the Blackshirt Spirit of heroism and dedication to the People that is so sorely needed in these shiftless times.

During the general conversation that followed, all agreed that the cause of today's problems is not that the British People have lost their spirit or will to live greatly. They are short of truly inspired leadership, locally and nationally, which alone will bring out once again the best of the British.

So concluded a comradely meeting held fifty-five years after the formation of the Modern Movement in Britain.

One is tempted to ask, how many will remember the foundation of the Social Democratic Party some half century from now?

GORDON BECKWELL

.....and in the West

THE Movement in the 1930s was a Godsend for so many with little or no hope for the future whatever - with mass unemployment and no State benefits like today writes disabled ex-soldier GEORGE OSBORNE of Exeter commenting on TV programme 'Time to Remember'.

"We have had a 'Mini-Reunion' of UNION MOVEMENT down here" he continues. "Myself, FRANK PARSONS and PETER DAWSON. When Peter comes down we meet as FRIENDS of O.M. and have a wonderful comradeship.

Could you mention this in Comrade?"
Delighted old soldier. JC

OLD COMRADES



In Memoriam

"Hark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages"

BAILEY Dennis: British Union Cadet, Clapham Branch, adopted son of BU inspector W.H. Symes: In October 1938 from accident with 31 A.A. Coy RE during Czech crisis.

DODS C.W. 'Bill': South Croydon British Union and Sydenham Union Movement: At Sidmouth, Devon on October 12 1984



Bill Dods 1961

GOWING Horace: Derby British Union: In November 1949, age 30 from TB contracted as political prisoner in Walton Jail and Ascot Concentration Camp during war. On release founded Sons of St. George in Derby maintaining highest patriotic principles of British Union.

HILDERSLEY Albert: In October 1948 St. Marylebone Branch, Union Movement.

O'DONOGHAN Rose: wife of old comrade Pat O'Donoghue, Shoreditch British Union and Lewisham Union Movement. On 27 November 1986.

PACKER Charlie: Union Movement accountant 1948-1985: Mayor of Bexley 1978-79: In November 1985.

THOMSON Alexander Raven:

Director of Policy British Union: Editor of Action 1939/40 and Union 1948 until his untimely death on October 30 1955.

Writer, philosopher, soldier-politician and well-loved faithful comrade and loyal friend of MOSLEY. A great British and European patriot.

His early death at 54 was no doubt caused by his treatment during wartime internment at the notorious Latchmere House, Ham Common, that that den of British psychological torture, and the loss, while still detained, of his young only son of a German mother - shot down in a RAF bomber over Germany.

Irreplaceable and still sadly missed. But still in spirit with us.
'RAVEN' PRESENT!



'Raven' 1934

Friends of O.M. COMMEMORATION DINNER Sat. 21st November 1987

Published for FRIENDS of O.M. by John Christian, 101, Gravel Court, Farnwell Road, London, E.6

COMRADE



Newsletter of Friends of O.M.

No.10 January 1988

SPECIAL EDITION

Friends of O.M. Annual Report and Review

"We regret nothing, not even our own past. Those who have lived in the happy valleys of blissful, peaceful periods in the history of the world have never known our depths, but they have also never known our heights....Therefore, we would not change with them, even if we could"..... Oswald Mosley 1933

As Then - As Now - As Tomorrow

MOSLEY LIVES

At the end of a further year of growth, the Council of Friends of O.M. thank all those associated with us for their magnificent support during 1987. Whether it has been support from those financially able to assist, or the moral support of those not in that position, but whose words of approval and encouragement have sustained us in our task.

Veterans of Mosley's NEW PARTY, brother Blackshirts of BRITISH UNION, old comrades of UNION MOVEMENT, old friends in ACTION SOCIETY, and new younger friends, fighting their way out of the morass of a sick society - together - holding the line for the generations to come.

Together - loyal to our past, bound in honour to those old comrades who sacrificed all for Britain's sake and who speak with us no more, British and European patriots striving to the heights of Mosley's purpose in the bond of brotherhood of F.O.M.

This year we have thought it more appropriate to publish our review of the years news and activities in the form of this extra smaller edition of COMRADE so that we could include on the back page some of the results of our activities that shortage of space had prevented use in previous newsletters.

British Political Prisoners

Cover-up

COMRADE celebrated its first anniversary in March with the exposure of the missing 188 files - those personal wartime files on some 750 British Union members imprisoned without charge or trial, the large bulk of which it has been suggested have been destroyed, or have been lost, or are missing at the Home Office? Subsequent correspondence with the Lord

Chancellors Department and the Home Office resulted in an invitation to the editor to visit that top security complex where files disappear to discuss the matter with a top civil servant. The object of the exercise appeared to be for the purpose of the defense of the ministry man's personal integrity in the matter and to discover the extent of our information and we were able to assist him with a minor point of knowledge. The total number of Mosley men and women imprisoned in 1940, each of whom had a personal file detailing such treachery as airing their belief that "Britons Fight for Britons only". The Home Office did not have a record of this inconvenient fact of history!

Our file on this will not be 'lost' or 'destroyed'. This new injustice heaped on the original political crime has been recorded for posterity, and we will continue to pursue it in our own good time.

Prize for British Union Essay

28 yr old TOM LINSEAN of Ilford, who graduated from York University with an honours degree in History during the summer, was also awarded the Maitland Prize for an original historical essay on East London BRITISH UNION. F.O.M. had assisted Mr. Linsean by introductions to old East London members, an aid without which he would not have been able to complete his thesis. Mr. Linsean has hopes to expand his research over the next few years.

A REPORT ON THE COMMEMORATION
DINNER IN OUR NEXT ISSUE.

FORWARD TO 1988

AS we reported last year, proposals are often made that we should have a subscription membership for F.O.M. and or COMRADE. We appreciate this interest as we know that these are made in appreciation of what we do, and an expression of a wish to participate in our efforts.

It is true that success creates increasing costs, every welcome new addition to our mailing list creating a charge for which there is not a like increase of income.

Nevertheless, many of our old comrades are senior citizens on restricted income and would have great difficulty in meeting such charges although we know they would try and do so.

We believe they have already fulfilled this obligation by their loyalty and sacrifices of the past.

It has been found that those of our friends who are financially able to assist us often do so and we here give our sincere thanks.

For a number of reasons, some of which will be understood, we decided at the birth of Friends of O.M. that we would not ask for financial help, a decision only slightly amended in the light of pressure from our concerned friends, in that on this occasion each year we will inform those who wish to show their appreciation, and have the assets to do so, to send their donations, small or large, made out to Friends of O.M., to Fred Bailey, 101, Orwell Court, Pownall Road, London, E8.

In 1988 we will continue to reveal the truth of the Mosley story, and gather within our open arms those old comrades still awaiting our discovery, and those of the younger generation searching for a greater challenge than 'slothful ease; greater things than safety' and learning that there are "more terrible things than death". For they must be the leaders of a British renaissance born out of Mosley's message that "Man must reach out beyond his present self, or fail", and that "This becomes our creed of life. Our life is dedicated to the purpose".

And like Ulysses, Friends of O.M.'s aim shall be
TO STRIVE, TO SEEK, TO FIND - AND NOT TO YIELD.

Published for Friends of O.M. by John Christian
101, Orwell Court, Pownall Road, London, E8

F.O.M

SOCIAL EVENING

SUNDAY 7TH FEBRUARY 1988

Bladebone Public House

BETHNAL GREEN

East London

Refreshments: Admission £2

1987



Fascism

Sir, — Your caption to the picture of the "Fascist Rally at the Empire Pool" (*THE TIMES*, April 10) requires correction. The picture shown is of the Mosley British Union meeting at Earl's Court Exhibition Hall on July 15, 1939 — just six weeks prior to the declaration of the 1939 war.

Described at the time as "the largest audience ever to attend an indoor meeting anywhere in the world", the 30,000 present persuaded Cassandra of the *Daily Mirror* to suggest: "There is no doubt that numerically the adherents to Fascism are increasing."

Which leads to the point I contest. That of the myth of the decline of Mosley's BUF after the middle of the 1930s, put at 1934 in your review of Dr Webber's book on "the British Right", and it is not clear if this is in fact Professor Griffiths' own view, although this clearly is attributed to Dr Webber, and to Richard Thurlow in this latest "Fascism in Britain".

It was not until Professor Skidelsky's biography of Mosley in 1975, and the explosion of academic interest in "the phenomenon of British Fascism" which remains unabated, that academics began more serious research into this period.

And although much revision has taken place owing to this dramatic change in the attitude of historians, this error the "decline" of Mosley's British Union before the war, persists and is perpetuated by the established academics (but not with the younger graduates and undergraduates now researching this subject).

Yours faithfully,
JOHN C. BRITISH FASCISTS

Mosley's Blackshirts

Sir, — My letter of condemnation of Mosley's

Battle of Cable Street

Sir, — May I as a Londoner comment

on the article in the *East Anglian Daily Times* (London) dated 10th April 1987, which is a gross distortion of the facts of the activities of Sir Oswald Mosley and his supporters (EADT, March 6), in which she had almost all her facts "upside down."

Whatever else happened in East London in the 1930's, it has never previously been suggested by any point of view that those who opposed Mosley, "joined forces with the police to do battle on the streets."

On the notorious October 4th, 1936, "the battle of Cable Street," to which I assume she refers, it is an established fact that those opposing Mosley set up street barricades and battled against the police while Mosley's thousands of supporters were lined up half-a-mile away and not involved.

This is borne out by the evidence of Special Branch report MEPOL 2/3043 on view at the Public Record Office, from which I quote.

"The general cry . . . that the 'entire population of East London had risen against Mosley and had declared that he and his followers should not pass,' and that he did not pass 'owing to the solid front presented by the workers of East London'. This statement is however, far

from reflecting accurately the state of affairs . . . There is abundant evidence that the movement has been steadily gaining ground in many parts of East London and has strong support in such districts as Stepney, Shoreditch, Bethnal Green, Hackney and Bow. There can be no doubt that the unruly and lawless element in the movement was very largely communist inspired."

In fact, in those very same areas, Mosley Blackshirt candidates polled almost 20 per cent of the vote in the local elections six months later.

The one fact of Mrs. Dickson's that bore an element of truth was that Mosley emerged from the (First) war along with his trenchmen making up a large body of his support.

This is borne out by a report on Armistice Day, 1940 in Ascot Concentration Camp, where hundreds of Mosley's supporters had been imprisoned without charge or trial, by John Wynne, an officer and pilot in the 1914/18 war. "More than one third of the British population of Ascot Camp were on parade. They included Admirals, Commanders, Colonels, Majors, Captains, Squadron Leaders, and many junior officers and NCOs both of this war and the last. The ribbons were a sight and included a DSO, DFC, and many DCMs and MCs. There were a number of 1914/15 Stars, many with the Mons Rosette."

So to that charge Mrs. Dickson, we shall ever plead guilty — with pride.

Revisionist Effort In England

In 1986, the Friends of Oswald Mosley launched their publication *COMRADE* from London.

Prior to WW II, the fastest growing political movement in England was the British Union of Fascists which was led by Sir Oswald Mosley. The BUF, as it was known, was a far more anti-Communist. As the BUF the Union Party, which contested elections until around 1968.

Old loyalists of Mosley still continue to hold yearly Friends of Oswald Mosley dinners and in 1986 it was decided to make an effort to correct the false material being put out by the left regarding the BUF and British patriots. *COMRADE* was launched and now carries articles regarding the true history of that period.

das künftige Verhältnis zur F.P.C. — Englischsprachige verweisen wir auf das Mitteilungsblatt der Freunde von Sir Oswald Mosley *COMRADE*, per John Christian, 101, Orwell Court, Pownell Road, London E. 8. Das Motto: THE SPIRIT LIVES — THE REST WILL FOLLOW. KOMMENTARE: Vienna

historians have seriously neglected the recollections of many of the individuals who were in the BUF and there is a pressing need to recover such memories if we are to produce a serious historical study of Fascism in Britain

RECTOR IN ECONOMIC & SOCIAL HISTORY
UNIVERSITY OF



Both Webber and Thurlow point out the difficulties of calculation in the area of membership statistics, and that "owing to the impressionistic nature of the evidence" most generalizations "still need to be treated with caution". Both, I know, would agree that, if new evidence of a solid kind were forthcoming, which modified their findings, it should be accepted.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD GRIFFITHS,
University College,
Cardiff.

Richard Griffiths is professor of French at University College, Cardiff. His book, "Fellow Travellers of the Right", was published by Constable in 1980.

Daily Telegraph

IN MEMORIAM "THEIR NAME LIVETH FOR EVER MORE"

BROCKING, G. T. and Day, K. G. 9 Sep. R.A.F. and Mosley's British Union killed in action, Wellington L4279 Kiel Canal, Sept. 4, 1939. The First Casualties "Yours the greater glory." Johnny

The Times

IN MEMORIAM - WAR

BROCKING, G. T. and Day, K. G. 9 Sep. R.A.F. and Mosley's British Union killed in action, Wellington L4279 Kiel Canal, September 4, 1939. The First Casualties "Yours the greater glory." Johnny

The Times

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MEMBERS British Union imprisoned without trial 1940 still alive whose file in 700 missing at Home Office contact BOX B65.

The Times

IN MEMORIAM - PRIVATE

WILLIAMSON Henry, August 13th 1977. At rest with Tarka, Maddison and Mosley. In Remembrance and Eternal Union old comrade - friends of F.O.M.

Daily Telegraph

IN MEMORIAM

WILLIAMSON Henry, Aug. 13, 1977. At rest with Tarka, Maddison and Mosley. In remembrance and eternal union old comrade. Friends of O.M.

COMRADE

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF O.M.

NO. 11 MARCH 1988



"The first time a political leader in Britain had been arrested and detained without trial on the grounds that he was the leader of a political party"

'TRUTH BETRAYED'

THE MINISTRIES OF LIES

New evidence of the underhand methods used by Government departments to check the progress of British Union before the war is revealed in a remarkable new book "Truth Betrayed" by W.J. West who also implies that the suppression of British Union was a major denial of our hereditary freedoms. ●

'Revelations' come thick and fast. William Joyce was supplied by M15 with secret information despatching him post-haste to Germany. British Union's Director General, Neil Francis-Hawkins discovered, to his anger, that an M15 agent had married his sister and used the connection to spy on him, and the banning in Britain of the Duke of Windsor's broadcast from Verdun in May 1939 appealing for World Peace heard by 400,000,000 in the rest of the world.

His main theme is the manipulation of radio for political purposes by Britain, Germany and other countries during and before the last war. He reveals that the suppression of radio talks in which Mosley was advertised was by direct intervention of the Foreign Office.

The latter insisted that no word of

BY GORDON BECKWELL

their involvement should leak out because the 'independence' of the BBC from Government must be seen to be maintained at all times.

M15 'tipped off' Joyce

The author suggests that it was a government in panic assuming members of British Union to be in contact with William Joyce broadcasting from Germany that was a factor in the internment of Mosley's Blackshirts.

Two days before the original Defence Regulation 18B was implemented in 1939, Joyce, who Mosley had dismissed from British Union two years previously, was tipped off by M15 that his arrest was imminent and he fled to Germany. He later began broadcasting on the German English-language propaganda station and supplied material for the New British Broadcasting Service, a German station purporting to be run by an anti-British Government group transmitting from British soil.

Many years before this, Mosley had begun to develop a commercial radio project known as Airline with the aim of earning a substantial fortune for British Union. Like Radio Luxemburg it would have beamed popular music to Britain and be financed by advertising. Mosley's identity had to be kept strictly secret to prevent boycott by advertisers. Big Business would not have supported a project designed to

make revolutionary changes in the financial system.

The Government's confusion between this project and the NBBS was another factor in their banning of British Union is suggested by Mr. West.

Panic in Government

The real reasons for the Government's action were well understood by Mosley and his Movement at that time, and the passage of years has only implemented that belief.

Panic in crisis of the little men who had misgoverned Britain for years, the wish to neutralise a possible rallying point for peace, and the wish to check the Mosley challenge for all time by inferring disloyalty to Britain. The vindictiveness of the pygmy politicians using their emergency war-time powers to grapple down a man of quality and a movement that was successfully challenging their dissolute ways.

M15 agent planned Mosley project

The Government knew of Mosley's radio project, and of its purpose. The main partner in the plan, in fact the advocate, M.E.D. Allen, now known to have been an M15 agent (identified later as Head of Station, Ankara) kept them fully informed of Airtime's true objectives.

➔ P.3
● "Truth Betrayed" Duckworth £12.95



LADY MOSLEY

writes "Tory MP Leonard Plugge had made a fortune from Radio Normandie with a concession from French Government. My task was

to get one from Germany with a wave length to cover London and Eastern England. The attraction for the Germans was that they badly needed foreign currency which the station would have produced in profusion. We had a strict confidence agreement with Bill Allen because if it had been known that British Union would benefit the advertisers would have been frightened away. After I got the concession, the German contract stated there was to be no propaganda of any description, not even news. Just sweet music and a few jokes to attract housewives. Pro-British Union propaganda would have wrecked the project, but we would have made enough to start a proper newspaper because I got a wonderful wave length.

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

BROOKER, Gnr C.G.: 90 Field Regt RA and Exeter Branch British Union: 18B Political Prisoner 1940-42: Died Prisoner of War 8.3.1945 age 24: Name inscribed on Cassino Memorial, Italy.

BURTENSHAW, Plt Sgt D.F.: RAP (VR) 156 Squadron and Brighton Branch of British Union: killed in action 3.1.1944, age 20: name inscribed Panel 216 Runnymede Memorial.

JONES, Captain F.R.F.: 6th Bn 14th Punjab Regt and Norwood Branch British Union: killed in action 11.2.1942 age 22: buried Kranji War Cemetery, Singapore.

For Them - A Greater Sacrifice...
And a Greater Glory.

*'From the flames which end an epoch rises
the Idea of the Future'*



BORN FEBRUARY 8TH.1948

OUT OF BRITISH UNION

REMEMBER AND BE GLAD



We were divided and we were conquered. That is the tragic epitaph of two war generations. Those words alone should adorn the grave of the youth of Europe. That was the fate of my generation in 1914 and that was the doom of a new generation of young soldiers in 1939. The youth of Europe shed the blood of their own family, and the jackals of the world grew fat. Those who fought are in the position of the conquered, whatever their country. Those who did not fight but merely profited, alone are victorious... The anguish of our age will not have been in vain if now is born the Idea that shall carry men beyond what is called "Democracy" and even beyond Fascism. From the flames which end an epoch rises the Idea of the Future"

With these words from The Extension of Patriotism published in January 1947, Oswald Mosley signalled his return to political life with his creed for the future, a new union of mind and spirit of those of like kind born out of the holocaust of two European Brothers Wars. It was to lead, a year later to the founding of Union Movement on 8 February, 1948.

Previously, in 1946, Mosley had started the organisation of Mosley Book Clubs for the purpose of distributing his writings, including the Mosley Newsletter, and private meetings were held all over the country for members to meet him. These had to be organised in great secrecy to avoid at that stage trouble from the Communist Party, and the Jewish '43 Group' who were chasing around in a column of cars to try and find the venue to attack isolated members - that is when they

were not recruiting for the Jewish terrorist gangs in Palestine.

Running a parallel course with street meetings were a number of organisations run by former British Union men campaigning for Mosley's return, though without his approval. The 'Big Four' were Antley Gannon's Imperial Defence League, Horace Gowing's Sons of St. George in Derby, Victor Burgess's Union for British Freedom, and Jeffrey Hamm's British League of Ex-Servicemen who were the most successful receiving major national publicity during the summer of 1947 in 'The Battle of Ridley Road'

EAST LONDON REMEMBERS

Bombed and battered East London, its population scattered during the war, but still enough of them left to remember Oswald Mosley, and they turned out in their hundreds once they knew the League was campaigning for his return.

"About a thousand working class men and women cheered wildly and hysterically as one fascist (sic) speaker after another paid homage to Sir Oswald Mosley" reported the Sunday Pictorial (17.8.47).

Following the publicity it had to happen and for two months on succeeding Sunday nights, Dalston was thronged with outsiders resulting from Communist Party all-London calls and militant Jewish organisations grouping to end the meetings by force.

Missiles were thrown, some-

times meetings were curtailed by the police, and there was much fighting but there was no surrender. East London rallied and speakers Jeffrey Hamm, Duke Pile, Coxall, Pipkin, Mike Ryan, 'Jock' Holliwel to name a few, stood firm against the organised hooliganism and by the end of the year had played their part in preparing the way for Mosley's return.

MOSLEY'S LOYALTY

The coming together of fifty-one groups to invite him to start again is the historical record on Mosley's return to political life, more humanly revealed in Lady Mosley's "Loved Ones".

"The steadfast loyalty of his political companions who had suffered for their beliefs, in some cases to the extent of five years in prison, was probably the principle reason" says Lady Mosley. "His own dreams were shattered. With dreary regularity, even while we were in prison, the predictions he had made concerning the Empire had come true."

EMPIRE LOST

On the day war ended it was "Fascism is dead. Now we must make Europe" he said to Lady Mosley, and indeed, when in Brixton Prison, with the tragedy not yet visible in the minds of men, he had avowed to a fellow detainee "The Empire has gone. We must now unite Europe".

The day the British Government gave their worthless guarantee to Poland and made



war inevitable, they signed away the British Empire which contained every raw material and human skill, and bequeathed to Britain a future of once again just an island in the North Sea, forced permanently to export or die to obtain the raw materials it lacks, and shorn of power and dependant on a land across the seas to protect it from a potential enemy permanently breathing at its gates.

That wanton political act leading to supreme tragedy destroyed also Mosley's vision of a Greater Britain within an insulated Empire system containing the highest standard of civilisation that the world had seen.

For Mosley to return to the fray appealing to the gut reaction of the British people, battered and bewildered after an exhaustive war, or his own loyal supporters, bursting out with a true patriotism held in check for nearly a decade, and ignore the new facts of life would have been a gross betrayal, an act of which he would have been incapable.

Union Movement was therefore launched with Mosley's great sense of urgency to unite a weakened and divided Europe. The Man whose 'failing' was always to be ahead of his time, rallied the old and the new to 'greatness in the service of high purpose. From the dust we rise to see a vision that came not before. All things are now possible; and all will be achieved by the final order of the European."

ROLL OF HONOUR

OUR BLACKSHIRT DEAD

HOW THEY DIED: The latest old comrades added to British Union's Roll of Honour resulting from our continuing investigations.

FLIGHT SERGEANT D.P. BURTENSHAW.

Taking off from Alconbury on the night of the 2nd of February 1944, Flight Sergeant Burtenshaw's 156 Squadron LANCASTER JB640 was one of 5 aircraft that failed to return from their Berlin target.

18 aircraft had been briefed for the operation. 4 failed to take off, and one returned early. Just 13, a figure which some would think unfortunate, crossed the enemy coast eastwards on that night when another of Mosley's young men died.

Flight Sergeant Burtenshaw, 20, was one of three members of British Union's Brighton Branch known to have died in the armed forces.

CAPTAIN F.R.F. JONES

On 8th December 1941, 22 yr Captain Felix Jones, Company Commander of the 6th Battalion 14th Punjab A (Sikh) Coy. sailed from Bombay to Singapore to form part of the 44th Indian Infantry Brigade.

It was the day the Japanese Army invaded Malaya, and by the time the battalion arrived at the Island on 25th January the Japanese had overrun the Peninsula and were poised to attack the Island over the Johore Strait.

Joining the rest of the Brigade on the West Coast of the Island, the battalion, largely composed of raw

and untrained troops, were under attack from front, flank and rear within hours of the Japanese invasion of the Island on February 9th. Withdrawn into a reserve position to be rested and fed after a two fighting withdrawal without food or rest, Captain Jones A Coy, in bivouac position, were attacked in the early hours of the 11th by the enemy who had infiltrated through forward positions.

In chaotic conditions, Captain Jones rapidly rallied his men but was killed when starting to lead his men in a charge.

GUNNER GEORGE BROOKER

A British political prison was George Brooker's first experience in loss of freedom and a German P.O.W camp his last.

Imprisoned under 18B Defence Regulations in Stafford goal without charge or trial in 1940, he found on his release in 1941, that, being a studious type and reading much under poor light, his eyesight had been affected.

Because of the unjust treatment of his patriotism, he became a conscientious objector and worked on a farm, but in due time his true conscience forced him to join the army.

We are not aware of his army service, but do know he became a prisoner of war in Italy.

We do know that during the severe winter of 1944-45, when German armies refugees and POW's marched westwards under most dreadful conditions, the dying George Brooker was taken by nuns from a handcart on which he had been laid, and attempts made to save his life, but it was already too late for another of Mosley's young men.

We do not know where his remains lie, but his name lives on inscribed on the Cassino War Memorial and British Unions Roll of Honour.

CHARLIE WATTS

Then came loads of questions about the New British Broadcasting Station, of which I knew nothing and of course could tell nothing. - from his unpublished manuscript.



Mr. West has discovered that a weekly publication summarising NBBS broadcast was issued by British Union's Charlie Watts, and that Joyce knew of it and maintained contact with the 'British Underground'. He admits the weakness of this supposition by his inability to trace copies of the publication, and admits that the printing presses were never found.

It is a pity that Mr. West was unaware that close comrades of the late Charlie Watts were still alive to assist with their memories, and of the existence of his unpublished memoirs which discusses this subject.

They know that Charlie Watts, loyal to Mosley and Britain, would never have had contact with a man disloyal to both. As Mosley told his interrogators: "If anyone in my movement... was in touch with (Joyce) to assist him... he would be slung out.. a perfect outrage to me as to the Nation - to me personally."

What is likely is that the Government directed M15 to find evidence of BU wartime contact with Germany. They found that Richard Pindlay, who they claimed was BU Director of PR, was in communication with Joyce. It was soon put right by Mosley. The British Union officer, A.C. Pindlay, was an entirely different person.

The author admits that all other attempts to prove a connection between Airtime and NBBS failed. Not the kind to give up easily he accuses M15's Maxwell Knight of framing the case against Anna Wolkoff who served 10 years for spying on evidence planted by Knight.

How refreshingly different from these 'dirty tricks' was Mosley and British Union's approach of 'We keep the Law until we can change it' so that it could be said 'We have nothing to hide therefore nothing to fear.'

Comrade researchers feel sympathy with the author's attempts to wrest closed and 'missing' records from the Home Office. After an interview he was told that files relating to Joyce and others would soon be available. After a fruitless wait he decided not to delay publication further.

Mr. West has made extensive use of the BBC Written Archives Centre, an area of 'unshredded' documents which previous researchers and 'mole' hunters had overlooked. He has in particular added to our knowledge of Soviet spy Guy Burgess, and is far from uncritical of the Government's double-standards in dealing with British Union members.

His research in this important book confirms many of the beliefs instinctively felt by those who questioned the truth of many of the sacred cows prevalent during the days that led to the demise of British Empire, and of Britain as a major power.

REMEMBER AND BE GLAD

From the start Union Movement had to fight to survive. Halls were banned, and a corrupt Labour Government using emergency rationing laws tried to stop the supply of newsprint for the Movement's paper Union. The same government, fearful no doubt of Mosley's presence in Europe, refused him a passport for four years.

There was however much street activity, attended from time to time by at violence by the militant Jewish '43 Group', usually by ambush or on individual members. That is until a day in the summer of 1948 when they planned an attack on a Romford march and meeting and meeting and received a good

hiding.

A Drum Corps was formed in East London and within its ranks were the benedicted young men returning from the Services who before the war were young Mosley supporters, and young boys whose fathers were Blackshirts, and now, 40 years on, still trailing the Mosley path in Friends of O.M.

Union Movement did not succeed in further growth after the first few years for reasons which might be the subject of further discussion.

But neither did it fail. There are still those left, now a little older, who like their still older British Union comrades before them, will tell you the greatest time of their lives was their march with Mosley.

Against great odds they fought the good fight and 'made it possible for new ideas to live' in Mosley's words in 'My Life' in tribute to UNION MOVEMENT.

"If" he continued, "the nation we know and love is dying before our eyes, then we should not shrink from the final test. A new party would then arise from the whole people and draw together the best... New policies and new forms will arise from the ashes of the past but the character of our people will in the end secure that England lives".

For UNION MOVEMENT, as for BRITISH UNION before it, the ghosts of old comrades stir in exhaustive slumber. The spirit lives.

From out of our past will come the new men and the new ways. We shall be remembered.

First Street Meeting.
May Day 1948, Dalston



F.H.-FROM OLD COMRADES

Neil Francis-Hawkins, unlike the outgoing Raven Thomson, was an indrawn person who nevertheless conveyed a considerable strength of character. All his contemporaries who worked with him at NHQ are no longer with us, but publish tributes from some old comrades who had some association with him.

From John Charnley, BU District Leader Hull East.

It was at Olympia in 1934 that I first met Francis-Hawkins when I was stewarding the balcony surrounding the main body of the hall. A member of the Red Front had climbed one of the main roof girders and was creating a great deal of disturbance. Without thought I started to climb up after him but was grabbed and pulled down from behind. "Don't be a fool" said a voice from the blackshirted figure that had pulled me down, and who immediately started to climb the girder, eventually persuading the interrupter to come down...and thats how I first met Francis Hawkins!

From Dick Bellamy, BU National Inspector for Northern England.

I always found Neil Francis-Hawkins pleasant and co-operative but difficult to 'get through to'. This was strange as we should have had so much in common - both ex-Public School-and both descended from West Country seafarers: this may have stemmed from our different life-styles. F.H. was a very correct middle-class townsman and my life had been totally different, having served in Ireland, and at sea, and lived for years in the Out-back, the Bush, and somewhat blind to middle-class conventions and inhibitions. Donovan, our Assistant Director General told me he regarded him as one of the most strictly honourable men he had ever known; he could promote a man on his merits whom he found personally detestable, and break a friend who did not measure up to his high standards! This was honesty of a high order. A man of courage and devotion to duty, but difficult to know.

From Ronald Creasy, BU District Leader, Eye, Suffolk.

A man in whom you could put every trust. Not so out-going as Raven Thomson but equally determined, self-possessed. My impression was that hidden behind a placid face one felt a capacity of sombre alertness. A readiness to act from a mainspring after the minutes approaching the hour of digested decision.

His quite and undisturbing exterior gave to the capacity of waiting for the moment of advantage. Quality of calmness revealed his strength, the will, the determination. He would glance and turn away. The penetration enough; the full judgement made, memorised, mentally filed.

A man of self-discipline revealing steadfast character vital to the organisation to which he gave deserving merit and dignity of position. As with many that have passed on, his achievements and spirit are a living embodiment of the future.



Francis-Hawkins and Mosley May-Day 1939

By JOHN CHRISTIAN

"I SHALL MENTION
NO OTHER BY NAME..
THESE TWO MAY REST
AS THE MONUMENT OF
THOSE WHO DIED AND
AND THE INSPIRATION
OF THOSE WHO LIVE"
(Neil Francis-Hawkins
and
A. Raven Thomson)
Oswald Mosley 'My Life'

From Pat O'Donagan, just a Shoreditch Blackshirt, and UM District Leader Lewisham.

I knew Francis-Hawkins before the war only as an officer who marched with us, and like so many I remember, very much an inspiration to we younger members of British Union. If the going was tough, men like F.H. set an example that I think few of us failed to respond.

I met him several times in 1946 with a few others at his Mews home in Victoria where there were some very angry, concerned and determined men. Detention had not subdued them, and I felt that for them, and those who would support them, the struggle would continue.

I was shown identity cards marked in red ink "18B". Never charged, never convicted; unjustly imprisoned, then freed to be branded "18B". What chance had they of obtaining employment? This was the major concern of F.H. and the small group I met. Led by F.H. they found employment for a number of 18B'ers, and the small part I played makes me very proud to have made that all too brief acquaintance of Francis-Hawkins, concerned more for his old comrades than he was for himself.

"A man of courage and devotion to duty.....and honesty of the highest order"

FRANCIS HAWKINS

HIS WAY TO THE STARS

NEIL FRANCIS-HAWKINS, whose early death at the age of 47 on Christmas Day, 1950 we memorialize in this issue, never faltered in his devotion to O.M., or his loyalty to cause and comrades, maintaining this without surrender through four years of Brixton Prison, restrictions on his liberty on release, victimisation on finding work, and considerable personal problems discovered from his file at the Public Record Office-one of the few the Home Office have released by mistake?

Throw in chronic bronchial asthma aggravated by prolonged vindictive imprisonment, and one feels that all this would have broken a lesser man.

Joining the British Fascists on their formation in the early 1920's, Francis-Hawkins carried the bulk of the male membership from that declining organisation with him to join Mosley in his newly formed British Union in 1932. He fairly soon became London Organiser and was responsible for the successful mass meetings at the Albert Hall and Olympia, where as John Charnley tells us in his tribute on this page, he showed a skill and courage outside his organising ability.

Later he was promoted to National Organiser, and eventually Director General of British Union, a post held until the dissolution of the Movement in 1940.



POLITICAL PRISONER

During the latter years of British Union, he controlled the Movement's enterprises. He was Secretary, Managing Director, and Chairman of BUF Trust Ltd., and was Trustee and business manager of British Union. BUF Trust controlled seven companies associated with it covering two weekly newspapers, "Action" and "Blackshirt", publishing, bookselling, general shops, film production, printing, and general wholesale merchants.

Apart from two months in Stafford Goal, 'P.H.' spent his 18B detention in Brixton, where, in 1943, he and a number of other detainees conducted a private business manufacturing high grade wooden toys in the prison workshop, a point of interest to collectors of memorabilia.

DANGER MAN

During this period, the proprietor of a medical supply association for whom P.H. had worked - from apprentice to Director - until joining BU NHQ in 1934 - had bombarded the Home Office with letters appealing for his release to run the firm. On vital war work, the firm at that stage of the war were having great problems with obtaining skilled labour. The answer was repeatedly NO.

Francis-Hawkins was obviously too dangerous to be let loose among the bandages bound for the armed forces.

Released at last - on October 4th, 1944 - a date on which no doubt P.H. pondered - the 8th Anniversary of the 'Battle of Cable Street' and 12th Anniversary of the birth of British Union - he was restricted to living outside the Metropolitan Police area, further travel restrictions, and regular reporting to local police. He applied to the Home Office for the restrictions to be lifted - his flat was in town - but the answer was NO.

He was obviously too dangerous to be let loose among the people of London.

Francis-Hawkins appealed to the Advisory Committee on Internment, that the conditions of his release were unfair and he appeared before them in December.

It is from the report of this hearing that I learned much of P.H.'s personal position, as, the proud and private person he was, he would never have divulged such matters to even his closest associates.

The world is now privy to this information, and some have made their comment in writings as Gordon Beckwell has noted on another page. In these circumstances I feel Francis-Hawkins,



5th Anniversary March Millbank to Bermondsey: Francis-Hawkins flanks The Leader: October 1937

in loyalty to Mosley and his old comrades, 'would understand the requirement for what has to be said.

Since the death of his mother in 1936 he had lived and looked after his invalid sister Elspeth, and a few months before the war had moved into a news flat at Victoria and paid the first quarters rent to his landlord - his Leader, Sir Oswald Mosley.

Since his detention four years previous he was without earnings, and although O.M. had relieved him of paying rent while the war lasted, his pride would not permit this debt to remain indefinitely unpaid. There had been rates to keep up - his sister was still there when not in hospital - and he had maintained her - including heavy hospital and medical expenses throughout his imprisonment. His small savings were almost depleted. The restrictions prevented him returning to his flat in London and his savings were not enough to move his furniture outside London. Since his release he had been staying with various friends but this could not go on indefinitely.

Board members A.W. Cockburn KC and G.H. Stuart Bunning questioned him closely on British Union organisation, his previous and present attitude to the war, and to Mosley. His answers left no doubt in their minds of his unending loyalty.

What however was their major concern? Hypocrisy of war-time detention

They were worried that this man who was 'dangerous' enough to have been put away for four years without a charge might again take up political activity, and that in the great metropolitan area it would be more difficult for the authorities to control him!

The moment of truth - but not revelation to members of Mosley's British Union. They never had any doubt of the reason for the curtailment of their liberty in a manner not previously experienced in British history, and I suggest current historians searching for some explicable reason for the Government's loss of sanity in 1940, face the unpalatable but simple truth.

To silence those whose voice was loud and clear in opposition to the folly of the politicians war gamble, that as it was foretold, was to lose an Empire, and reduce the once proud British to a shadow of her former greatness, dependant on others for her very survival.

For Francis-Hawkins the Advisory Board hearing had a further purpose. to record his anger at the self-controlling Maxwell Knight of M15's "B" Division for using the husband - "who was in the Service" - of another of P.H.'s sisters, to spy on him. Knight, known as 'M' employed a ring of dubious agents and his methods are now known to have been questionable. Responsible for the arrest of American cypher clerk Tyler Kent, he was known to Francis-Hawkins from the early 1920's when Knight was Director of Intelligence of the early British Fascists!

The Advisory Committee, a toothless animal set up to fool the people, and indeed Parliament, that justice was seen to be done for those imprisoned for breaking no laws, did however report P.H. to be an 'honest man' and that he no intention of taking up political activity 'while the war lasted'.



The views of this toothless animal were processed through M15 - as we now know permeated by Soviet agents and under Moscow control - to that horrible little man Herbert Morrison, whose 1914-18 War conscientious objection Churchill found qualitative to appoint him Home Secretary, a position of power fortifying the man's vindictiveness and vanity, occasioning more often than not his disregard of recommendations for release of his political prisoners.

With the end of the war in sight, it was no doubt felt the charade could not continue. The restrictions were lifted, P.H. in his London flat, and the May week before the capital's streets were to be filled with celebrating crowds for the end of the war with Germany, he at last was able to take up the post of Deputy Head of the medical supply association that had battled for his release, and where twenty years before he had started as a medical assistant. And that might have been the end of his four year trail to freedom but it was not to be.

For within days the Communist Party found him, whipped up a campaign against him, workforce meetings organised, and a strike notice ultimatum delivered to his employer who, with tears in his eyes, was forced to accede, and on 'V' Day, May 8th., Francis-Hawkins was out of his job.

The War for Freedom had been Won.

And the Home Office closed his file with a brief sentence, and appropriately, a report of the affair in two press cuttings - the "Daily Worker" and the "Jewish Chronicle".

Undefeated he started his own business in rehabilitation of industrial property, and gave freelance employment to a number of ex-detainees who were finding it difficult to find work.

Though not actively concerned, he was heavily involved behind the scenes in the formation of Union Movement.

It was during this period - I had met him once before the war - that we met on a number of occasions and I believe there grew a mutual feeling of understanding that can exist without great length of conversation.

There was now little time left for Neil Francis-Hawkins, and he died, peacefully, in his sleep. Undefeated, his honour and integrity intact, his devotion and loyalty to Oswald Mosley undiminished.

We who marched with him during those stirring times cannot forget him, for he is part of us. For those who follow, remember the words of regard of his old comrades as an example of one man's pursuit of high purpose.

You may not shake the world, but you will have found your way to the stars.

THE
STORY
OF

'CRISIS'

THE BANNED—
THEN MISSING FILM
OF THE MOSLEY HERITAGE



by ROY CUMMINGS

WHEN in June 1929 cameras and a sound unit were invited in to the garden of number 10 Downing Street to record the new Government, the resulting eight minute newsreel had a great effect on cinema audiences all over the country.

With Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald introducing members of his Labour Cabinet - and their individual replies - the British public for the first time could hear as well as see their political masters.

The closest scrutiny of surviving newsreels fail to reveal even a fleeting glimpse of the newly appointed Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, and it would appear that Oswald Mosley was not included.

The impact of the new medium was not lost on Mosley. When he formed the New Party in 1931, he commissioned a propaganda film for cinema release in a determined effort to reach the maximum number of people in the shortest possible time.

Unveiled in Birmingham in October 1931, "CRISIS" immediately caused an uproar.

Pictures of snoring M.P.s in Parliament, dole queues, and

"For the first time in this country, outright political censorship was imposed on a cinema film"

Government ministers speaking under the communist hammer and sickle emblem, and scenes of crowded New Party meetings was just too much.

Within days of its release in Newcastle-on-Tyne, it was banned by the Board of film censors.

The first time in Britain that outright political censorship was imposed on a cinema film.

A copy of "CRISIS" cannot be traced, and few facts are known about this pioneering attempt to reach out to the people in the innovative way which was to be the precursor of the Party Political Broadcast.

Its one-time existence however proves yet again Mosley's foresight in his never ending struggle to reach the people.

It is not beyond the bounds of contention, that had Television been developed in the early 1930s, and had Mosley been allowed the freedom of the Nation's airways,

SAVED THE
NEW PARTY

**NEW PARTY'S
FILM
WITHDRAWN.**

Action by Board of
Censors.

From Our Own Correspondent.

Newcastle, Wednesday.

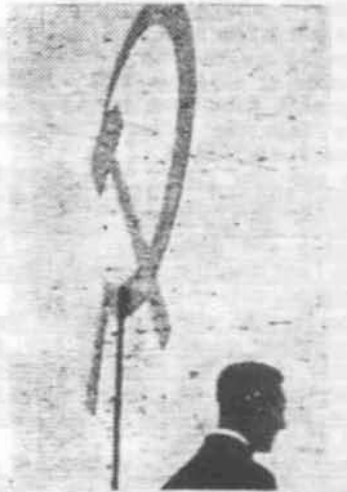
THE New Party's film "Crisis" has been withdrawn from a Newcastle cinema by the Board of Censors.

CALL FOR A RULING.

Mr. W. Risdon, the New Party organiser in the Northern area, in an interview with me here to-day said:

"I feel, that the development of publicity which is a feature of the modern cinema world is something which will be taken advantage of by political parties to a great extent in the future, and it will be interesting to find out authoritatively what sort of presentation is or is not permissible and the grounds on which permission may be withheld."

not to mention the use of satellite, he would without doubt have swept the country and Europe with his oratory and genuine passion for justice, and his rallying call for the urgency and necessity for a union of those peoples inescapably bound by their racial and cultural past.



'I found myself on a number of occasions close to tears.
Not tears of sadness, but tears of pride' ..first time former
Union Movement guest

The Commemoration Dinner



*"The living anima of that great Leader dominant in the atmosphere of this
this evening..." Ronald Creasy*

THE large banqueting suite of a central London hotel was filled to capacity on Saturday November 21st, when Friends of O.M. commemorated the birth date of Oswald Mosley.

Many new faces, both old and young, bore evidence of COMRADE's steady advance during the past year and a growing awareness that as all other policies fail it is to Mosley's ideas that we must look with fresh dedication.

Lady Mosley spoke of her great pleasure at being present with so many friends at this special time of year and her delight at learning recently that a handprinted edition of O.M.'s philosophical essays had been re-issued in the United States.

Ronald Creasy thanked our distinguished guest for gracing with her presence an occasion that always renewed the spirit of many. He restated his belief that by following the Leader's life-example Truth will prevail over the lie, Service over selfishness and Hope over despair.

Father Brocard Sewall told us of the central theme in the life of the late Henry Williamson, famous author and Blackshirt. His two greatest series of novels were an attempt to educate the young in the wasteful criminality of wars. Father Brocard reminded us that Mosley's last spoken message to friends and comrades, made with full vigour a few months before his death, was his concern that we must do everything possible to prevent those in power drifting towards the final holocaust of world nuclear war. Therefore we should respond positively

to the disarmament initiative from Premier Gorbachev if proved valid.

John Christian talked of the importance of the first phase of "COMRADE's" work, involving intensive archival research and lengthy correspondence throughout Britain and the world to record and substantiate the true story of the Mosley Movement's place in British history. Only when the past is seen in true perspective can anything be built soundly for the future, and quoting Browning "The future I may face now that I have proved the past."

Not just nostalgia

Michael Quill rebutted any suggestion that COMRADE was motivated by pointless nostalgia as future issues will begin to demonstrate. Our numbers may seem relatively modest against the size of the problem, noting that during the 1930s the British presence in Ceylon was only a few hundred soldiers and officials and yet they achieved peace, order and security. Today tens of thousands of troops march the length of that unhappy island and both terror and disunion prevail. Quality not quantity will always win the day.

'Today is Oswald Mosley Day'

In conclusion Dan Harmston spoke of the future. We all had a special responsibility because we all had a remarkable gift: how to think and how to live from Mosley or his writings.

Were we to waste that gift? What would be his message if not only just his spirit was present? He would be telling us to get out and tell the people what we know. Family, friends, workmates: everybody we meet and wherever we meet them. The crisis draws undeniably closer. Maybe eloquence does not come easy to all of us but all can summon up the courage to speak our mind for Britain and Europe.

Those of us who have observed Big Dan over the years are no strangers to his sartorial impeccability but the single red rose in his buttonhole still caught our attention. No, he had not joined the Labour Party. He was suggesting that henceforth we should all wear this national emblem on November 16th., the Leaders birthday, and if asked why we should reply: "Because today is Oswald Mosley Day"

We can sum up the spirit of the evening in no better way than - with a

slight amendment - one of the last messages from British Union after the arrest of Mosley in 1940:

GO FORWARD EVERY ONE OF YOU AND
PREPARE THE MINDS OF THE PEOPLE FOR
THE GREATNESS THAT SHALL BE THEIRS -
WHEN MOSLEY'S IDEALS RULE - AS THEY
MOST SURELY WILL.



*"Quality not quantity will always
win the day" --- Mike Quill*



*"Henry Williamson's two greatest
series of novels were an attempt
educate the young in the wasteful
criminality of wars" ---
Father Brocard Sewall*



*"My heart beats for England, but
my brain thinks of Europe" ---
Dan Harmston*

Report by JEREMY WALKER

LOOKING BACK



THE FASTEST FLAG

The BUF pennant of its London Volunteer Transport Service was carried by Captain Sir Malcolm Campbell on his famous Blue Bird when he created a new world land record of 301.12mph at Daytona on 7th March 1935



Mrs Dolly Bailey presents
a bouquet to Lady Mosley

In Memoriam

"Hark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages"

AITKEN, Andrew: Pilot Officer RAF and early British Union member: killed flying accident, Sussex, December 1937

BECKETT, Mrs Joe: wife of former Heavy Weight Boxing Champion of England: Member British Union like her husband: 18B Political Prisoner in Holloway Goal 1940: Union Movement Wessex until her death on 12 December 1952.

COKER, Mrs: Mother of Ernest Coker, Union Movement Branch Leader, Walthamstow and family of British Union supporters before war: Died January 1950.

DUFFIELD, K.T: Epping Branch British Union and 18B Political Prisoner 1940: Died December 1986.

ELAM, Dudley: Elderley receptionist at BUF NHQ Westminster: 18B Political Prisoner 1940 contributing to his death in December 1948: His wife British Union's Parliamentary Candidate for Northampton likewise imprisoned in Holloway Goal.

FERRIS, Don: Nottingham Branch British Union and 1940 18B Political Prisoner: Died March 1952.

FRANCIS HAWKINS, Neil: Director General of British Union and one of its pioneer members in 1932: His 4 years incarcerated in Brixton Jail 1940 to 1944 as a Political Prisoner did not assist his bronchial asthma, bringing about his early death at 43 on December 25th, 1950.

GRANT, of Shoreditch: British Union veteran of Shoreditch Branch and father of family of Mosley supporters before, during, and after the war. Died December 1948

RANSSELL, Mrs Florence: Bethnal Green British Union and Union Movement - a stalwart and loyal member who undaunted collected donations for the 18B Detainees Fund during the dark years of the war. Died December 1950.

STEELE, Captain C.H: British Union Parliamentary Candidate Guildford: Died February 1939 after injury from brick thrown at Blackshirt march.

WARBURTON, Ned: New Party and British Union Manchester and London NHQ Branches: Lost an eye in 'battle of Stockton-on-Tees', 1933: War service Pioneer Corps where mentioned in despatches: Posted to Denmark and Northern Germany to secretly organise German Army units to fight against possible advancing Red Army in last days of war: Died 31st December 1984.

WONFER, James H: Sgt. 78th Canadian Bn 1914-18: 2 medals: British Union District Leader Dorset North: imprisoned 18B 1940: Speaker Union Movement, Wessex Branch: Died March 1953.

HAMILTON, Sir Archibald: Popular character at Selsey British Union Camp: Died March 1939.

HILL, W.M: One of earliest members of British Union with two sons also joining the Movement: In retirement helped to found Taunton Branch: Died January 1938.



OBITUARY

RON D'ALESSIO

WE regret to report the death on January 18th of old comrade **E.R.D'Alessio**, first BUF District Leader of Plymouth, and later District Leader of Cheltenham.

One of the oldest and most valued friends of 87 yr old Dick Bellamy, BUF National Inspector and Parliamentary Candidate for Blackley, Manchester, we are indebted to him for this tribute to his old friend.

Ron D'Alessio, in his mid-eighties on his death, was the son of a parson and entered the Royal Navy as a Midshipman and qualified as a Marine Engineer, resigning his Commission shortly after the 1st World War. He enrolled in the BUF in 1933 or 1934 and on account of his sound good sense and forceful character was quickly promoted to District Officer. Deeply disappointed to find the Branch existed only on paper and heavily in debt, he closed the spacious Headquarters and inaugurated a thorough clean up, ending with a much reduced but revitalised branch. He was later transferred to Cheltenham and again created a wholly satisfactory branch.

As an engineer he had no difficulty in securing a post in an aircraft factory where he remained until rounded up by wartime 18B internment to Walton Goal, then Ascot and Peel, Isle of Man from where he was liberated in the summer of 1941.

After the war he returned to sea becoming Chief Engineer in a Red Sea trader. For years before his death his health was very precarious. He spent his last years in Bristol, and finally Minehead.

He leaves a widow and two sons.
Farewell Old Comrade.

We regret to report the death on October 16th 1987 of **Peter Ling** of Bournemouth who was a Midlands member of Union Movement in the 1950's.

There was some disagreement years ago writes his old friend Ted Davey of Southampton, 'but he was fascinated when I gave him a copy of Comrade, and had hoped to attend the Commemoration Dinner'.

"COMRADES IN STRUGGLE"

Friends of O.M. have produced a one-hour Audio Cassette of Mosley's pre-war speeches and Blackshirt Bands and Union Movement Drums. A leaflet is enclosed.

Please note that because of the age and condition of much of the original material, the quality in some parts is less than we would have wished.

OLD COMRADES



CHRISTMAS REUNION

A CHRISTMAS REUNION for old comrades of the early days of UNION MOVEMENT when London's Jimmy Elves gave a party for his old friend 'Young Reno' - or Reno Santucci to give him his birthright. Jimmy and Reno were together in Union Movement's Drum Corps, Reno emigrating to the United States in the early 1950's.

On a brief visit to England, 'Young Reno' met old comrades he had not seen for a number of years. The old songs were sung, and some it is said saw the dawn!

NEWS FROM DOWN UNDER

"I was thrilled when a friend sent two copies of your excellent magazine" writes David Clausen from New Zealand. "Whilst on a working holiday to UK in 1960's I heard Oswald Mosley speak at North Kensington and Earls Court. Comrade is just what I've been looking for but didn't realize you existed. I couldn't believe all the old names - the Bailey's, Dan Harmston Quill's, and Creasy etc.etc. I do wish you all the best with Comrade. I am sure you are on the right track. You have certainly impressed me".

INSPIRED EVENING AT THE COMMEMORATION DINNER

"The evening I found inspirational. I went with misgivings, thinking it would be a stroll down memory lane, mixed with lots of sadness for those no longer with us. Instead, I found myself on a number of occasions close to tears. Not tears of sadness, but tears of pride.

My vintage is Union Movement, so I have been aware since I was a schoolboy of the debt we owe to the pre-war Blackshirts, and the example that they set us. To see so many of them there, in some cases overcoming great infirmity to do so, filled me with great pride. Those of my generation owe it to those men and women to carry the standard forward. This is why it was also so good to see so many young people there. They were not members of British Union or Union Movement, but still the message has reached their souls."

WANTED

For Cash: Items related to the political and personal life of Sir Oswald Mosley. Also material on the New Party, British Union of Fascists, and Union Movement.
101, Orwell Court, BOX C101
Pownall Road, London, E8

British Union Day

MAY-DAY BUFFET SUPPER

SATURDAY MAY 7TH 1988

COMRADE

NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF D.M.

NO. 12 APRIL / MAY 1988



Gorbachev: home for Hess

RADIO MOSCOW "Recent reports by the head of our government, Michail Gorbachev, permit the expression of hope that your longtime efforts in behalf of the release of war criminal Rudolf Hess may soon be crowned with success." Letter to German listener 21 June 1987

The last double-cross The final obscenity

WHO KILLED HESS?



By JOHN CHRISTIAN

When the frail and nearly blind 93 yr old **RUDOLF HESS** took his daily warder assisted walk from his nine by eight foot cell to the bus-shelter like shack misnamed a summer-house in the garden of Spandau Prison that August afternoon last year, perhaps the ageing heart beat a little faster, the legs a little lighter and the eyes a little brighter as his thoughts dwelt on the freedom that was to come. At long last he saw the end of his 46 yr old incarceration imposed by his vengeful enemies.

On reaching his wooden bench, as he touched and talked with his only friends, the little birds he had tamed - the only association with any form of life graciously granted by a judicial ritual of righteousness - perhaps he told them of the beckoning light of freedom, and the finale of the Prisoner of Spandau as he fed them with scraps of food saved from his meals.

But it was not the freedom of death that had awakened the near lost emotions of Rudolf Hess.

Not for him last August the thoughts of death as a release from his miser-

ies, a self-inflicted hanging from a five foot length of electrical flex.

For Rudolf Hess believed he was going home.

The story now being leaked from diplomatic and intelligence sources is that Hess was to be freed unilaterally by the Russians before the end of the year. Soviet leader **Gorbachev** was to declare an amnesty in a propaganda coup to further the acceptable face of Soviet Communism in Western Europe. The decision was reported to West German President **von Weizsaecker** prior to his Moscow visit earlier in the year. The British Government were informed by the West German President and their object-

ion to Hess's release accompanied him to Moscow.

The Moscow Radio letter which we publish would seem to confirm the 'Gorbachev Plan'. It was in reply to a letter written two months previous and one cannot believe an expression of this view by Moscow Radio without top level release.

British blocked Hess release

Why should the British Government have objected to the release of Hess when for years, in answer to humanitarian appeals from all walks of life, they protested their guiltless inability to do so because of the 'Soviet veto'? The Russians want to keep him in Spandau until his death they bleated. 'To enable them retain a presence in West Berlin'.

All British governments since the war have maintained this apologia for doing nothing, whatever their political hue.

They were believed, but it is now becoming clear it was false.

Just prior to the death of Hess, the American TV programme **Sixty Minutes** re-



British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

AUSTIN, Sgt. W. Gilst Bn KRAC and Liverpool British Union: age 26, killed in action Tunis 10 May 1943: Buried Medjez-el-Bab War Cemetery, Tunisia.

AYRES, Pte. F. 'Nipper': 6th Bn. Green Howards and Ldmehouse British Union: killed in action near Dunkirk 25 May 1940: Buried Oye-Plage Communal Cemetery, France.

BREWER, Cpl. A. A. J. 2nd Bn. Black Watch & Dorset British Union: killed in action Burma 5 April 1944: Name inscribed Rangoon Memorial.

EAST, Lt. Philip: 5th Bn. Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders and Leytonstone British Union: Age 26: killed in action Tunisia 24 April 1943: Buried Medjez-el-Bab War Cemetery, Tunisia.

FITCH, Sq/Ldr R. L. J. 'Tigger' DFC:

RAF & Clapham British Union: Age 26: killed in flying ops Norfolk 21 May 1945: Buried St Nicholas Church Kelvedon Hatch Essex.



GILL, Sgt/Pil B. W. RAF VR: No. 3 Glider Training School: killed in flying accident 28 May 1943: Age 22: Leeds British Union and released 18B political prisoner.

IRVINE, Pte R. 1/5 Bn Queens Royal Regt. and Shoreditch British Union: killed in action before Dunkirk 28 May 1940: Age 21: Buried Strazeele Communal Cemetery, France.

MITFORD, Major The Hon Tom: Rifle Brigade & NFK Branch British Union: brother of Lady Mosley: killed in action, Burma 4 April 1945: Age 36.

For Them - A Greater Sacrifice... And a Greater Glory.

vealed that one year Moscow failed to object. Britain made sure that Hess stayed in his cell by making her own objection.

Glasnost for Hess

The decision by Gorbachev - the man Mrs Thatcher says she can do business with - to release Hess was a manoeuvre of highest political skill.

With one stroke of the pen his popularity, already higher than President Regans in West Germany, would have soared to new heights, and with it the pressures to reduce their defence capability.

For Britain, Hess on the



IN his articles Roy Cummings suggested the collation of a special archive on the "Mosley Speech Inheritance"; and it may well be that there does exist other, as yet, undiscovered sound recordings of the man regarded by many as the greatest British orator of the Twentieth Century.

Interest in Mosley and his Movement is growing, and it is a source of constant frustration to historians and political students that so little original material survives. All the BUF's Headquarters records were seized by the Special Branch in 1940. Some of these records, particularly the branch membership lists, seem to have now fallen by dubious means into the hands of private "collectors", but it is likely that most were destroyed along with all the M15 documents stored there when Pentonville Prison was bombed and badly damaged in 1942. In 1954, the accidental burning down of Mosley's house in Ireland must have resulted in the loss of even more archive material.

Much left to collate

So what remains? An enormous amount of material, for although the letters etc. received by Mosley must have been destroyed, there are hundreds, perhaps even thousands of people throughout Britain who still have letters written by him, local and national newspaper cuttings, personal photo-

"What is now urgently needed is a comprehensive central archive" suggests

PETER MARCY

graphs that may be unique, leaflets and pamphlets that may now be rare, and amateur cinefilms.

During the last few years only two books have been published containing memoirs of Blackshirts, but there are quite a number which exist in manuscript form. Of these, the most authoritative and comprehensive are one-time National Inspector Dick Bellamy's "WE MARCHED WITH MOSLEY", "MOSLEY IN PERSPECTIVE", "MEMOIRS OF A FASCIST BEAST". East Yorkshire Propaganda Officer John Charnley has recently produced "TROUBLED TIMES: Memories of a Mosleyite", and Farmer and Dorset District Leader Robert Saunders O.B.E. his "A TILLER OF MANY SOILS". In addition, Woman District Leader Nellie Driver of Nelson produced "FROM THE SHADOWS OF EXILE", and it is believed that District Leader Ronald D'Alessio of Cheltenham, who passed away in January, District Leader Leslie Grundy of Huddersfield, ex-Royal Flying Corps pilot John Wynn, and Ascot Concentration Camp Leader Arthur Swan have also produced their memoirs.

Assembled in one place

However, I suggest that what is now urgently needed is a comprehensive central archive covering every aspect of Mosley's political career - letters, memos, reports of his speeches in Parliament, newspaper cuttings, photographs, pamphlets, books, etc. The archive would hold complete files of "ACTION", "BLACKSHIRT", "FASCIST QUARTERLY", "BRITISH UNION QUARTERLY", "MOSLEY NEWSLETTER" etc. In some respects American researchers are better provided for at present, as most of Mosley's books have been reprinted in the U.S.A.!

Where is the scholastic institution or philanthropic individual who will provide the necessary facilities and accommodation?

front page HESS

loose exposing possibly the greatest establishment cover up in British history, it could have had inestimable consequences, and though 93, his staying power through years of captivity suggests he would have been capable.

What is remarkable is that it took the Russians so long to get wise to the situation, and we here see the hand of the English renegade ex-M16 Soviet agent Kim Philby, now back in favour with the Gorbachev establishment for his experience and knowledge of the British establishment.

For reason of the heavily penetrated Soviet agent network in the British security services during the war, Kilby was certainly privy to much more of the Hess cover up than the 'mole' hunters have recorded. He certainly knew more than what has been told to the British public.

Kremlin knew of British cover up

From Soviet intelligence records, Gorbachev would also have knowledge of the Hess British cover-up.

Stalin was alleged to believe that under interrogation Hess revealed details of German military plans to invade Russia and that they were not revealed to him.

Apart from the fact that this poses the question 'why should they' - at the time Stalin was supplying Hitler with essential war material and sending congratulations on his military successes - it is a reasonable conjecture from what we do know of Hess, that if he did reveal the plans it could only have been under some form of extreme 'interrogation', giving credence to the submission by historian David Irving in his recent book that during his first year of imprisonment, Hess was treated with early experimental 'truth drugs', driving him to the point of insanity.

It is also believed that when Lord Beaverbrook visited Hess, posing as a psychiatrist at Mytchett Place, Aldershot, in September, 1941, a copy of the transcription of the interview, made by a concealed microphone and officially recorded, was made by a Soviet 'mole' member of the security-checked staff and within 24 hours

● HESS: The Missing Years 1941-1945 (MCMILLAN £16.95)

the story-of why Hess flew to Britain was known to Josef Stalin.

With a full insight of the delicate British position, Gorbachev had long been aware of the Soviet cover-up, responsible for their years of veto on the release of Hess.

After the failure of the failure of the Berlin blockade to put the whole of the capital in their hands, the Soviet strategy changed direction.

Secret Hess flight to East Germany

In early March 1952, Stalin suddenly proposed the reunification of Germany as an unarmed, neutral state, designed to force the withdrawal of American forces from Europe and lead to a Germany under Soviet domination.

A week later, on March 17, 1952, according to distinguished retired Munich University professor Dr Werner Maser, Hess was secretly taken from Spandau during the night, while the Russians were on guard, and flown to East Germany to meet Communist Prime Minister Otto Grotewohl and officials from the Kremlin.

On Stalin's orders, they offered him a residence in Dresden as head of a new 'National Democratic Party of Germany' to take in former Nazis, and his immediate freedom.

Loyal to Hitler's memory, Hess refused and he was told that the Russians would make sure that he would be imprisoned until his death.

According to Dr Maser, who makes the claim in his memoirs, he was given the secret information by the East German Prime Minister at the time but promised to keep silent for at least 20 years after Herr Grotewohl's death.

Hess: Gorbachev's Ace

Treading warily in his demolition of Stalin because of the hard line Stalinites, Gorbachev found his ace in the pack, Rudolf Hess. With Hess at large, releasing the news of the Stalin offer - the great anti-fascist, the great anti-Nazi, about who it was already being argued whether he had killed more Russians than the Germans had, doing a deal with the former Deputy Fuehrer of Nazi Germany.

Gorbachev had everything going for him. Only the British would be compromised and that also would be fine for Gorbachev.

But all for naught for within weeks Hess lay dead. The man who was physically

2 HESS

incapable of raising his hands above his head, had tied a wire round his neck in a slip knot, attached it to the shelter wall, and hanged himself unconscious.

So it was said

The warder that should have been on guard was missing, where and for how long, and when he was found there was 'pandemonium' about who was to blame, and how it might be 'covered up' is a digest of of official and media reports.

Which would seem to set the historical scene for the end of the man who has provided the 20th Century with possibly its greatest mystery.

Or does it?

A 'leaked' report from the American duty guard Bravo Coy 5th Bn 502 Regiment paints a very different view of that Spandau August afternoon.

It alleges that 2 men, not on the prison staff, spent the previous two nights there and were waiting in the summer house, suggesting that the absence of his guard was known.

Seeking to strangle him with electric flex, presumably to be followed by hanging to fake suicide, they ran into unex-difficulties.

The old man fought back and in the 'pandemonium' an American heard his cry for help.

Unconscious, he was taken by military ambulance to the British Military Hospital where the official report at 4.10pm pronounced him dead.

My source alleges that Hess was accompanied in the ambulance by the two 'strangers of Spandau' and have not been seen since. Members of the last US Army Spandau detachment have been transferred out of Germany I am told. To Pacific bases!

Spandau Prison was then pulled-down inaction such as has not been seen in Europe since Hitler's 'Blitzkrieg', and unless I have been dilatory, the absence of a report of any enquiry, even if it was to be another cover up is very odd.

My information is that Hess was aware of his impending release. He had many sympathisers in the guards of all 4 nations and some long serving warders were attached to him. In recent years there was little problem in getting messages to him from outside.

"Only one person emerges with dignity... said Sir John Roper in the Sunday Express. The dead man himself."

Perhaps the most honest appraisal of Hess the man, and analysis of that day in May of 1941, when a middle-aged man dropped from the Scottish sky by a one way only flight from Germany, was made ten years ago by Dr. Glen St. J. Barclay, Reader in History, University of Queensland in his book on the early part of the Second World War *Their Finest*

Rescuer



'Boy in the Park'

SPRING IN PARK LANE

IT was a warm Spring sunlit day, the Spanish Civil War had been raging for some time, and the Labour Party, assisted by its Communist allies in the so-called 'Popular Front' were holding a "Save Spain" rally in Hyde Park, and British Union was to hold an 'Action' sales drive in nearby Park Lane.

Strolling through the Park, my brother and I, he as a free lance journalist and I to join the boys in Park lane, noticed about twenty yards ahead near where Sir Stafford Cripps was speaking, a tall girl, her blonde hair glistening under the strong sunlight, bravely resisting the jeers and kicks of a menacing crowd of supporters of the Spanish churchburners, her proud bearing alone keeping the mob at bay.

'The kicks went in'

"Perhaps she's one of ours - Come On" said my brother, and in we plunged, forcing our way to her side just as a solitary policeman made it.

Within seconds I was down and as the kicks went in I did see my brother, girl, and constable fighting their way through the crowd towards Marble Arch.

Later I learned that, assisted by two further constables, they made it through a hail of stones and kicks to jump a passing bus, the

APRIL 10th. 1937, a day to remember for the sole survivor of a trio involved in an incident which hit world headlines with varying degrees of accuracy, particularly in the British media and subsequent biographies.

In the cause of historical truth JOHN CHRISTIAN tells his story.

three policemen holding or a few hundred of the pursuing mob with their batons.

A short ride and tea for two was followed a week later by an invitation to tea for my brother at the home of Lord and Lady Redesdale, parents of 'the girl in the Park', who was of course Unity Mitford, whose life ended tragically a few years later after shooting herself in the 'English Garden' in Munich when war broke between England and Germany. Unity's love of England had overflowed to the New Germany and its own special vibrant National Socialism, and to her, war between the two was the supreme tragedy.

A broken heart

Who can say now, when a weakened Europe struggles to hold off the permanent pressures from the descendants of Bolshevik terror, that her conclusions were irrational, and her act of finality the last beat of a lover's broken heart?

In Hyde Park she was attacked for wearing with the youthful abandon of the dedicated believer, a 'Party' badge given to her in Germany - a rash action given the known violence of Marxist mobs - but which she nevertheless carried through with the high courage and honesty which was hall-mark of that beloved young lady.



'Not again Peter'....to R Peter Keen, John Christian, and 'Dixie' Dean tend an injured steward at Mosley's meeting at Mitcham Baths on March 2nd, 1938

Rescued



'Girl in the Park'

When her two rescuers disappeared from sight in Hyde Park, the boy who lost the girl fought his way out and was fortunately swept up in a section of the mob stampeding towards Park Lane, arriving to find about twenty 'Action' sellers with their backs to a large house fighting off the vanguard of the Red mob.

Diving in I was able to join them as Bethnal Green's former boxer 'Dixie' Dean was thrown into a basement.

Fierce fighting

As was usual with our Red opponents, "those at the back shouted 'forward', and those at the front shouted 'back'", but nevertheless there was enough pushed forward to outnumber our little group, and the fighting became fierce.

Finding myself 'back-to-back' with Streatham's Peter Keen, there was just time to remark "No! - Not you again Peter" before more heavy involvement. The significance of that remark is that whenever Peter and I met by chance - it had frequently been prior, or during some outnumbered physical assault by a Red rabble.

The fifteen minute battle ended with the arrival of a handful of police, a fast retreating mob, and a number of bodies in the road. Several of our boys were taken to hospital by ambulance, including George Curson and Mitcham speaker Eric Steer, injured in a separate incident.

Bruised and battered, yet just another day to be remembered for those involved. For like other British Union comrades, on other days, and other places, they bore their wounds with pride, for in their dedication to Mosley and his cause of a greater future for Britain and her sons, they freely gave their bodies as well as their hearts and minds.

THOUGHTS THAT

By GORDON
BECKWELL

COME
IN A



Some of our best friends are Robots

There were two things in particular that Oswald Mosley never lost faith in. The British people, and the power of modern science to increase the means to produce.

I remember coming across my first Mosley book at the age of 15 in a local library. "Mosley: The Facts" published in the 1950s contained a futuristic essay by the Leader on Automation: how properly applied it would raise wages and consumption and reduce the working day. That was before the microchip, Computer Aided Manufacture and the days when industry could boast "Hand-built by Robots".

How sad has become the reality, how great the opportunity lost. Instead of directing modern technology towards increased output coupled with greater leisure time for all, it has been used to reduce the workforce and allow greater profit to be gained from barely raised production. Along with unfair competition from cheap labour countries and the refusal to equate purchasing power with the supply of goods, automation has helped relegate in Britain alone, nearly 4-million people and their families to uselessness.

Mosley would have handled it differently and his ideas still show the way forward. Government must establish the guiding principle that the new technologies must be used only to raise production and wages and/or leisure time: not to allow Finance make quick profits by throwing workers into the rubbish skip of unemployment and cutting their labour costs.

Consider the alternatives.

Imagine that yet another high technology system is developed that will allow one person to do the work of four. The temptation is for management to sack three people and boost profit by cutting their wage bill by 75%.

COMRADE does not lay down detailed policy other than a general adherence to the ideas of Oswald Mosley. In this column Gordon Beckwell, one of our forward looking advocates of Mosley thought, gives his personal views on the future.

What we need is a Mosley-inspired government policy that would require management to still employ four people, increase output four-fold and raise wages by 400% to provide the purchasing power to absorb the increased production. The higher tax yield would also increase several-fold allowing those in public service and pensioners to share the benefits too.

Of course, the details have been simplified but the principle is sound. So we fear not the robots nor view the microchip with the dread of Luddites. Instead we ask: why do we never hear any serious attempt at ideas to solve unemployment from the fine minds of the Old Parties? Half measures maybe. But even the most gullible observer knows that retraining people to work in other industries equally cursed by high unemployment is a cruel political hoax. And a child recognises that job sharing means sharing the pay and nobody can support a family on half a wage.

So why on the rare occasions that Mosley's ideas for full employment are raised do the Old Party careerists hide behind talk about concentration camps? One war-inspired atrocity among many that Mosley condemned and which would never have happened if pre-war government had heeded his case for Peace.

Black and White against - Left and Right?

During the late 1930s the British Union paper ACTION found time to campaign against the iniquity of working conditions and mass unemployment among black people on West Indian sugar plantations as unworthy of a great Empire containing many races.

After the war Britain paid the price through the influx of Jamaicans faced with starvation in their own country. By the early 1950s Union Movement was taking the lead in warning of the social dangers of mass immigration. The throwing together of

large numbers of people of different culture, outlook and way of life competing for jobs and housing in overcrowded British cities clearly would not work.

Mosley summed it up succinctly in six words. "Unnatural mixture leads always to strife." And now 40 years later strife we have had. Multi-racism seems to bring out the worst in both Black and White. In the former it leads to the recently reported incidence of crime while in the latter it can breed racial hatred. From the start Mosley made it clear that we do not condemn law-abiding Black people who along with White people are the victims of manipulation and financial exploitation. The culprits are the media opinion formers, trade union leaders and politicians who allowed it to happen. And the governments who, as recent releases of Cabinet papers make clear, well knew the consequences but still did nothing.

Mosley's policy was "a fair deal for all in their own countries." In the heat of the moment ordinary people may say things that do not bear close examination in calmer periods. But there is no reason why the interests of all should not coincide: specified changes in government policy could bring prosperity to the Caribbean countries providing good jobs for the majority of Black people who, opinion polls indicate, would prefer to live in their country of racial origin.

Mosley made contact with responsible Black leaders and talked to them in their own homes. It was to the great credit of Union Movement that in the early 1960s an Associate Movement was formed whereby Black people could co-operate in a fair policy of Jamaica for the Jamaicans, Asia for the Asians and Britain for the British.

It was led, if I remember rightly, by a West Indian RAF officer and an Asian lawyer. Of course, media abuse and the lies of our opponents ensured only limited progress for this Associate Movement but the principle was established.

From time to time I muse on the shocked reaction of the Liberal-Left Love, Brotherhood, Humanity Brigade if at some time in the future they discover Black people preferring to co-operate with us again for an honest answer to the mutual horrors of multi-racism rather than themselves. There's no reason why it shouldn't happen. Who says so?

Mosley said so!

3 ← HESS

Hess (Weidenfeld and Nicolson).

"When Rudolf Hess made a gallant attempt to arrange a peace deal with the British Government, he was dismissed as being mad - perhaps the only sane man in a mad world... It was indeed the last chance of preserving anything like a balance of power in Europe, the last chance of keeping the British Empire viable, the last chance of averting Russian predominance. It was a rational and unselfish as any political act could well be."

LOOKING BACK



MAY DAY 1938

Westminster to Bermondsey: British Union Colours in the March at Lambeth Bridge

MOSLEY'S MOVEMENTS FILES DONATED TO UNIVERSITY

Records of British Union and Union Movement which must be unique have been donated to Sheffield University by Robert Saunders, former BU District Leader, Dorset and UM Wessex Organiser.

Farmer Bob, awarded OBE for his services to National Farmers Union, maintained his Branch files complete from 1934 to 1970 although interned 188 during the war.

The files have been contracted to be open to all serious researchers.

'BRITONS FIGHT FOR BRITAIN ONLY'

MAY DAY 1939

BRITISH UNION'S BATTLE FOR PEACE

THE GREATEST march for Peace in the history of British Union took place on Sunday May 7th. 1939 when 20,000 Blackshirts marched from London's Victoria Embankment to Ridley Road, Dalston.

This was the figure recorded by *Islington and Holloway Press* whose reporter confessed: "I didn't know there were so many of them."

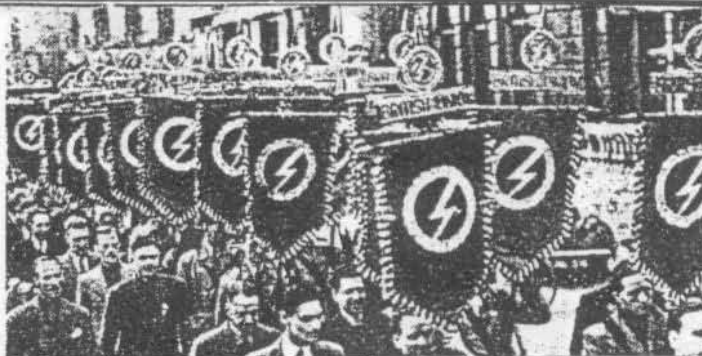
At Ridley Road, a waiting crowd of 20,000 cheered the marchers on arrival and stayed to hear the speech of the Leader of British Union at the culmination of this massive demonstration of the people's will for peace.

'Wake Up Britain... Stop War'

Two weeks before, the word had gone out in a private order from the Senior Administrator, London, Captain U.A. Hicks to all Districts: "The old parties are united in support of the Government's present foreign policy. United they stand in the drift to WAR and behind them is the terrible power of the Press. Mosley has proved by his great rallies for PEACE in different parts of the country that the people need British Union Policy...to WAKE UP BRITAIN and STOP WAR. This year's MAY DAY RALLY is dedicated to the cause of PEACE."

The response was overwhelming: they came in their thousands. 20,000 marchers compared with 8,000 at the 1938 May Day Rally, itself considered impressive at the time, showing the remarkable turning of popular support towards British Union policy of Peace and Social Justice.

Both the march and meeting were peaceful and completely unopposed, a sign of the large and growing earnest and enthusiastic support to



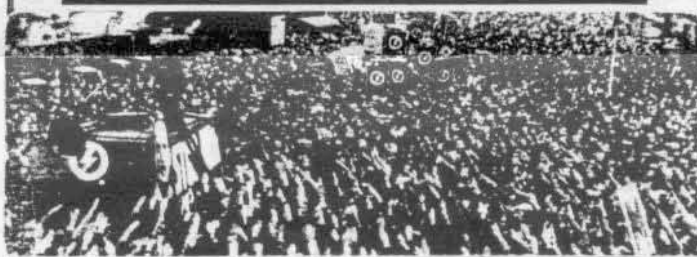
THE LAST LONG MARCH

Before the rear of the march had left the assembly point, mustered in tight ranks stretching between Hangerford and Westminster Bridges, the head of the column had reached Charing Cross Road, the unbroken line stretching far back down St. Martins Place, round three sides of Trafalgar Square and along Northumberland Avenue to Victoria Embankment.

ORDER OF MARCH

Senior Administrator, London
Bugler...P/A London...2 Orderlies
Special Detachment, four men
Old Flag...District Inspector Walker
Special Detachment...12 men...District Inspector Osborn
First Section of Drums...Band Leader Hardiman
Leader's Party...4 men
Asst.D.G. "A"...LEADER...Director General
Leader's Flag...Armsden
Leader's Party...4 men
HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS
LONDON ADMINISTRATION COLOURS
Special Detachment...24 men
No.1 Detachment (1st.London Area): Dist.Inspector Watts
No.2 Detachment (2nd.London Area): Dist.Inspector Bloomfield
No.3 Detachment (3rd.London Area): Dist.Inspector Curruthers
Public Address Van
Second Section of Drums...Johnson
No.4 Detachment (Attached London Area):Nat.Inspector McKechnie
No.5 Detachment (4th.London Area): Dist.Leader Sutherland
No.6 Detachment (5th.London Area):Dist.Inspector Capleton
Women's Section of Drums:Womens County Organiser Miss Bond
No.7 Detachment(Women):Chief Womens Organiser Mrs.Brock Griggs
No.8 Detachment(Women):Womens National Inspector Mrs.Ruffer
No.9 Detachment (6th.London Area): District Inspector Thomas
MASSSED COLOURS...A/P/O Armstrong
No.10 Detachment (7th.London Area): District Inspector Podger
No.11 Detachment (Attached London Area): Nat.Inspector Bellamy
No.12 Detachment (8th.London Area): A/P/O Waters
No.13 Detachment (9th.London Area): District Leader Beavan
COACH
Fourth Section of Drums...Wright
No.14 Detachment (Attached London Area): Nat.Inspector Garnett
No.15 Detachment (Attached London Area): Nat.Inspector Moran
No.16 Detachment (10th London Area): District Inspector Lyon
No.17 Detachment (11th.London Area): District Inspector Rigby
In Charge Motor Cyclists...R.Tubby

By GORDON BECKWELL



the heart-felt cause of Peace through British Union.

Crowds gathered at main points along the route - Shaftesbury Avenue, Rosebury Avenue, Penton Street, Barnesbury Road and Liverpool Road to cheer the column. One group at Newington Green had waited an hour to see Mosley pass.

'Marchers given a terrific reception'

"Islington turned out to see them. The streets were crowded. Hundreds watched from open windows" reported the local paper, as "Sir Oswald Mosley and his 20,000 Blackshirts marched through Islington...their Union Jacks flying boldly...Along the

THE STANDARDS OF HONOUR

BRITISH UNION DAY 1939 was the first time that the 60 new Honour Standards of British Union were carried in procession.

In four contingents of fifteen, each held high by a specially chosen bearer, they consisted of the Action Flash within an Oakleaf Circle surmounted by a Point. Beneath was a metal plaque marked 'British Union' and beneath this a larger Circle and Flash on a red cloth background.

They were never again to be proudly carried through our English streets in a British Union march. Four months later Britain declared war with Germany, and British Union had lost its valiant last ditch battle for Peace.

But one day men will say that in the nobility of its last glorious stand to defend the true interests of the British people, it achieved a height of honour that will ever be an example of a true patriotism and quality of purpose.

Its Honour Standards, born to be borne only on that last long march, will ever represent the Battle Honour of that army of selfless men and women who, with a laugh on their lips, dared all in the lost battle to save the land they loved.

route there were cries of 'Hail Mosley' and the British Union salute was frequently given..."

At Ridley Road "the marchers were given a terrific reception" it continued. "With Mosley at their head they swung into the street, drums, fifes, bagpipes, trumpets, playing 'Sons of the Sea'."

Not 'one drop of British blood'

Mounting the PA van at the end of the 5 1/2 mile march, Mosley said "May Day is the day of the people of Britain. On this day, in the past, thousands of Britons have rallied for people and peace...But today, British Union marches alone in the cause of people and peace... Alone it challenges all the forces that strive to bring a world war...There is nothing in the world except Britain that justifies the spilling of one drop of British blood."

Four months later, Britain declared war on Germany to protect the independence of Poland.

Mosley and hundreds of his comrades were put away in jails and concentration camps to silence their voice.

Hundreds of thousands of Britain's sons died before 'victory' was claimed, and Britain had lost the strength to defend herself and her independence hard won over a thousand years.

AND POLAND?

British Union Day/BUFFET SUPPER
SATURDAY MAY 7TH 1988

OBITUARY

BILL FITT

As a young man Bill Fitt was a member of Epping Branch British Union where he became well known as a local speaker. He was the son of Alderman Fitt, one time Mayor and Leader of Walthamstow Conservatives, after whom a local school was named, and it was for this reason that Bill joined Epping Branch of British Union.

Six months before his death on January 30th., Bill, who served in the Army during the war, made what he called 'his last donation' to Friends of O.M. He also disposed of his historical items "before it is too late, and will be more likely to survive through FOM. He concluded with his appreciation of Comrade, "which has made nostalgic reading. I have never regretted some of the most exciting and inspiring times of my life."

ERIC SIMPKINS

Unexpectedly in hospital on April 4th after an emergency operation, Eric Simpkins, 70, of Woodford Bridge, Essex, will be sorely missed by older and younger comrades at F.O.M. functions where he and his wife Pam were a familiar and welcome twosome.

A member of British Union Drum Corps, he served during the war in the Royal Artillery and was in action after 'D Day' in Normandy, Belgium and Germany, accompanied by Oswald Mosley's "Tomorrow We Live" carried always in his pack.

After the war he was in the first Union Movement Drum Corps, a familiar figure in his benedictal Army battledress tunic.

Eric was truly 'wedded' to British Union, marrying the daughter of veteran former Hackney District Leader Jack Groves. Our hearts go out to Pam in her most grievous loss.

ARTHUR BEAVAN

On March 23rd. in his 88th. year Arthur Beavan was believed to be oldest of our old comrades. Born in South Wales he was already at sea at the age of 14, serving in the Merchant Navy and Army during World War 1. Later he served in the United States Army.

Returning to England he became active in the Communist Party until the birth of British Union where he said, shortly before his death, "I found the end of my search."

He soon became a Unit Leader in British Union's elite '1' Division, and later District Leader of West Ham where shortly before the war he efficiently organised a membership of over 800. He was also to become BU's Prospective Parliament-Candidate for Upton.

A wartime British political prisoner under the infamous 18B Regulations, he was also active in the early days of Union Movement, and as he grew older and moved to Basildon in Essex, he kept his faith and loyalty to Mosley in the confines of his little small room, alone with The Leader's portrait to remind him of the great days of the past, and a photograph of the other great love of his life, British Union East Ham Branch Women's Organiser 'Scram' Bullivant, his wife who predeceased him by some 20 years.

We who are old enough to remember the younger 'Beavan' recall his 'prickly' exterior - the hard man who did not suffer fools gladly if he thought their actions injurious to Mosley's cause.

We will also remember him as a symbol of the quality of men who joined Mosley in his long march.

The local people of Basildon will also remember the familiar figure, his ageing body racked with arthritis, collecting his weekly pension wearing permanently on his coat the British Union Bronze Distinction Badge of Merit awarded to him in 1937.

A fighter to the very end.

Farewell old comrades. You have left us but your spirit lives. The story of your dedicated life a legacy for the generations to come.

"THE SPIRIT LIVES...THE REST WILL FOLLOW"



Eric Simpkins
May Day 1948

OUR BLACKSHIRT DEAD

HOW THEY DIED: The latest old comrade to join British Union's Roll of Honour resulting from our investigations.

LT. PHILIP EAST

5th. Bn. Queen's Own
Cameron Highlanders



Philip East, age 22, joined Leytonstone Branch of British Union when a pupil of Leyton County High School, one of three pupils who joined the Branch who we now know were killed in action.

It was during the 5th. Army's drive North to Sfax and Sousse - and finally Tunis, that Philip rejoined his battalion after three months in hospital. Four days later he was leading a patrol against German positions near Takrouna Hill and found that they had not withdrawn as had been believed but were there in force.

The patrol engaged them with grenades and withdrew as they were sniped from German rear positions and Philip was killed.

BLACKSHIRT MEMOIRS RECORDED

"HISTORIANS HAD seriously neglected recollections of many of the members of the BUF" and that "there is a pressing need to recover such memories if a serious historical study is one day to be produced" suggested a university historian corresponding with "COMRADE" last year.

FRIENDS of O.M. agree and are mindful of a duty to hand on to future generations the true record of those men and women who participated in Mosley and British Union's sublime struggle to save Britain from decay, and to inspire the British people with a vision of a future "Tomorrow we Live".

It is a fact of life that the vast majority of our old comrades are no longer with us but those of us who remain can still, by the example of their past, show the new generations the way.

In January this year, FRIENDS of O.M. has, by appointment, been visiting old comrades in a project of recording on tape their memoirs. These are for our own historical archives and will remain in our possession for the foreseeable future and nothing in them will be used, even by FRIENDS of O.M. without receiving permission from the person featured, as long as they are alive.

OLD COMRADES



In Memoriam

"Hark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages"

CAMPBELL, J.H.: Manchester

British Union & Union Movement: May 1952.

COLE, Captain T.F.: one of first officer Burgess Hill, Sussex British Union: May 1939

DUHIG, Paddy: Millwall

RAF, & early Union

Movement. Member of

UM Drum Corps.

On April 12th. 1986

HOGARTH, GEORGE: member Agric-

cultural Section TGMU: Dist-

trict Treasurer Epsom, Suffolk

British Union and Standard

Bearer Earls Court, July 1939:

Union Movement 1948-: On 9th

April 1985, age 74.

MITFORD, Unity Valkyrie: Lady

Mosley's sister: 28 May 1948.

NIGHTINGALE, A.: District Leader

Horsham, Sussex, British Union:

April 1948

ROBERTSON, Kenneth: Shoreditch

British Union: May 1939.

We ask all old comrades to assist in this project, and would be grateful if those who have not been directly contacted would write to us with their co-operation. We would remind all old British Union comrades that even the most non-active of non-active members, who might think they have little to say, that however little, like the days of British Union, the part one played, small or large, was vital for the whole.

Greetings

BURWOOD Dicky:

Our Bethnal Green

'Battler':

On May 12th 'Happy

Birthday' old comrade

On his 82nd!



WANTED

FOR CASH: Items related to the political and personal life of Sir Oswald Mosley. Also material on the New Party, British Union of Fascists and Union Movement. BOX C101

101, Orwell Court, Pownall Rd, London, E8

"The BUF Appointments List" [pre 1936 "Official Gazette"]

If any reader has any copies, even if incomplete,

FOM would appreciate the opportunity to photocopy &

return them. Their acquisition will represent an im-

portant assistance to our ongoing research programme.

Published by BUF NHQ, these

'Gazettes' gave details of appointments of District,

Regional and National officials. Box W102

COMRADE



NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF O.M.

NO.13 JUNE/JULY 1988

1940

"British Security's fatal blunder...was to take it for granted that any 'anti-fascist' from an upper-class family who had a public school and Oxford or Cambridge education was ipso facto a loyal British subject" accuses PETER MARCY. "This was part of a general misconception in Western democracies as to what really threatened the survival of the Christian West in the Twentieth Century"

The REAL 'TRAITORS IN OUR MIDST'

During the Second World War a total of 1,829 men and women, of which nearly 800 were members of British Union, were imprisoned without charge or trial under Defence Regulation 18B. Almost all these detentions took place during a 9 week period in the Summer of 1940. The personal files of all these people should now be available for public scrutiny under the Thirty Year Rule, yet when one member of British Union who had been imprisoned for 3½ years asked to see his file he was told that it had been destroyed as being of "no historical interest!" It now seems that more than 1,800 of these files have vanished.

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

MULLAN, L/Cpl Bernard 'Paddy':
Corps of Military Police and
BRITISH UNION "I" Squad:
Killed in action 12 June
1942:buried Knightsbridge,
War Cemetery, Acroma,
Libya.

AITKEN, Sq/Ldr Lionel: RAF
59 Squadron: and BRITISH
UNION "I" Squad:killed in
action 7 July 1941:Buried
Dunkirk Town Cemetery.

FAIREY, Wt/Of David George:
212 Sq: and Leytonstone
Branch BRITISH UNION: Age
23:killed on operations
Cochin, India 27 June 1944:
Buried Madras War Cemetery

WALSH, Sgt Michael: RAF
156 Sq:and Limehouse Branch
BRITISH UNION: killed in
action 27 July 1942: Age
23: Name inscribed Panel
96 Runnymede Air Force
Memorial.

No doubt it would be extremely embarrassing for any post war British Government to reveal the files of such people as former Director of Naval Intelligence Admiral Sir Barry Domville and the Tory M.P. Captain A.H.M.Ramsay. But are we to believe that the files of such a distinguished airman as Air Commodore Oddie and Captain Hepburn-Ruston - father of film star Audrey Hepburn - are of "no historical interest"?

From the recent flood of books, newspaper articles and television documentaries readers will be aware that both Sir Roger Hollis, Director-General of M15 from 1956 to 1965 and Graham Mitchell, Deputy Director-General from 1956 to 1963 were suspected

»»2

...and The Real Patriots

OSWALD MOSLEY
flanked by
three of the
BUF Defence
Force, the "I"
Squad in 1934

They are Eric Hamilton
Piercy, Bernard "Paddy"
Mullan and Lionel Aitken



The Picture That
Tells It ALL

In latter years the media have made much play with this picture to slant a view of Mosley's "Blackshirt hierarchy of the 1930s", or to condemn Mosley by insinuation of the 'Blackshirt thugs' with whom he associated.

We bring their story up to date, which will perhaps explain a little of the 'mystery' of why Oswald Mosley choose to 'associate' with such men.

AMERICA COMPENSATES HER WAR DETAINEES

How about Britain's
Political Prisoners?

asks Dr. Peel

FOLLOWING the passing of a Bill in the United States Senate to compensate surviving Americans of Japanese descent interned in the last war, PETER PEEL, a Doctor of Philosophy in California, has suggested to the British Home Secretary that survivors of those detained under Britain's iniquitous 18B Defence Regulations should now be likewise compensated.

In a letter to Douglas Hurd, he applauds the American "sense of decency and justice" and argues for Britain's political prisoners "and their dead fellows", compensation and a public apology.

Dr. Peel joined British Union in 1933. He served from 1939 to 1946 in the R.A.F.

Letter Page 3 →

Eric Piercy, joining Mosley in the New Party became O/C National Defence Force on the birth of the BUF.

On May 28 1940, five days after his Leader had been arrested and detained in Brixton Prison without any charge made against him, Piercy and fellow BU member C.P.P. Dick, owner of an open bridged forty foot motor launch 'Advance', learned from the Admiralty that there was an acute shortage of crews for the Dunkirk evacuation and all boats taken over by them had left. An official report states that Dick and Piercy, then 39, volunteered to take themselves to Sheerness and then by persistence took 'Advance' to Dunkirk.

In a non-stop ferry service throughout the Dunkirk evacuation they brought back hundreds of British soldiers to our shores.

What the official report did not reveal was that on their final return they were arrested under 18B Defence Regulations and taken to Walton Goal.

Sqdn Ldr Lionel Aitken, 59 Squadron RAF did not go to Walton Goal. His prison was the English Channel and his

→ 2

« TRAITORS

of being Soviet spies and were the subject of intensive secret investigations. At the present time the preponderance of evidence points to Graham Mitchell being the real Soviet spy and Sir Roger Hollis (whose elder brother Christopher was a British Union supporter and a frequent contributor to **ACTION!**) the set-up innocent.

Several historians have recently suggested that the files of the 188 Detainees have disappeared because they contain planted false evidence. So who planted it?

The Red Web

The obvious suspect is Anthony Blunt, who after serving in the Military Liaison Division was promoted to Personal Assistant to the Head of Counter Espionage. On 22 April 1964, in return for a promise of immunity, he confessed that he had been recruited as a Soviet spy in 1936 by Guy Burgess.



Blunt: Spy



Mitchell: Suspect



Hollis: Set-up?

Another suspect is Jennifer Fisher Williams who joined the Communist Party in Oxford and had been introduced to her Russian KGB Controller by Bernard Floud. On 27 October 1967, Floud committed suicide immediately after being interrogated by M15 - just as Harold Wilson was about to make him a Government Minister! From 1938 Williams was employed in a secret department of the Home Office investigating the activities of "right-wing extremists" and she married an M15 officer, Herbert Hart.

Then there is Graham

Mitchell, educated at Winchester and Magdalen College, Oxford who before joining M15 had been a journalist on *Illustrated London News* and a member of the Conservative Party's Research Department. After M15 moved to Blenheim Palace in 1940, Mitchell was observed to express "left-wing" views. His task too was to watch "right-wing extremists." In 1954, on being made Director of Counter Espionage, Mitchell promptly ordered the close-down of the investigation that would have exposed Philby. In October 1953 when Harold Macmillan wrongly cleared Philby in Parliament it was Mitchell who had prepared the PM's reply!

Philby vanished in Beirut on 23 January 1963. Because Mitchell had been one of only 5 people who had known that Philby was being investigated it was decided that he too was suspect. Mitchell suddenly retired - 3 years early and on a much reduced pension.

Treachery Abounding

The picture emerges of a Soviet spy cell operating in the summer of 1940 right at the heart of British Intelligence. At the Home Office surveillance of detainees - probably including the handling of their appeals, and complaints from friends and relatives about their imprisonment - is under the control of a woman communist. At Wormwood Scrubs prison the

files are in the hands of Graham Mitchell and readily accessible to military liaison officer Anthony Blunt, who controls such field officers as Lieutenant Ornstein, the principle M15 inquisitor at Ascot and Hulton Concentration Camps.

British Security's fatal blunder in the 1930's was to take it for granted that any "anti-fascist" from an upper class family who had a public school and Oxford or Cambridge education was *ipso-facto* a loyal British subject. This was part of a general misconception in Western democracies as to what threatened the survival of the Christian West in the Twentieth Century.

In the words of a leading Intelligence expert, "...up to 1948 a youthful connection with the Communist Party of Great Britain had never been enough to disbar officials from secret work." Indeed, the glorification of the Soviet Union between 1941 and 1945 might have led some people to feel that spying for Russia was hardly different from spying for Britain.

Thus did British Officialdom clasp to its bosom such traitorous vipers as Anthony Blunt, Guy Burgess, John Cairncross, Bernard Floud, Donald Maclean, Alan Nunn May, Kim Philby and John Vassall.

It was bad enough that innocent men and women should have been set-up as cock-shies and Aunt Sallies.

Bad enough that many of them should suffer years of imprisonment under harsh conditions and have their reputations permanently damaged.

But the worst thing of all is that the alleged traitors were delivered right into the hands of the real ones.

« REAL PATRIOTS

name is inscribed on the Dunkirk Town Cemetery.

As reported in **COMRADE** 7, Aitken, Pilot of a Blenheim, took off from Detling on 7 July 1941 on an offensive patrol over Northern France.

After attacking the air defences of Cherbourg-

Mauerpertus, the 6 Blenheims attacked 2 German convoys off Gravelines and Calais, sinking an "E" Boat and damaging further vessels.

Sqdn. Ldr Aitken was last seen diving into the sea with starboard engine on fire after flying low over an escorting destroyer.

If there were last thoughts he would have gladly faced death in the cause of duty. Certainly not in the cause of 'the war for Freedom' for his Leader, after 410 days, was still incarcerated without charge or trial in Brixton Prison.

L/Cpl 'Paddy' Mullan, Corps of Military Police who joins British Union Roll of Honour in this issue of **COMRADE**, was killed in action on 12 June 1942, the first day of the Battle of Knightsbridge which led to Rommel's capture of Tobruk and the British retreat to El Alamein.

We do not know the details of his death, but we do know that Paddy Mullan would have faced it with the courage he had shown in the days that were gone in the BUF's "I" Squad - like the day in Worthing in 1934 when at the side of Mosley they battled their way through a Red mob, and were both later charged, and found not guilty, of riotous assembly.

And if there was a fleeting moment before the end, he may have thought that 'the thundering line of battle' in the Western Desert a cleaner fight, his adversaries a more noble enemy than his political foe who by lies and constitutional trickery were still holding his Leader in Jail after 750 days in their war in 'Defence of Freedom'.

OUR BLACKSHIRT DEAD

HOW THEY DIED.. The latest old comrade - with L/Cpl Paddy Mullan on our front page - to join British Union's Roll of Honour resulting from our continual search.

W/O D.G. FAIREY RAF (VR)
212 Squadron



One of three boys to join British Union's Leyton Branch when pupils at Leyton County High School, all of whom were killed in action in the 1939/45 War.

A navigator/bomber, W/O Fairey was reported missing believed killed with the crew of Catalina FP231 which was burnt out in an accident after take off from COCHIN, India.

212 Squadron was a General Reconnaissance Flying Boat Squadron based at Korangi Creek

The Ballad of Walton Jail

They have flung us in foul smelling dungeons
They have shut us away from the sun —
They have locked us away from the light of the day
This — aye and more have they done!

They have poisoned the minds of our kindred with
venom, slander and lies.
By turning the love of our children to hate
They have stricken the light from our eyes.

Fools! — by each blow they have dealt us
They have welded us all into one.
As strong as the bars on the windows — the bolts
on the door,
Comrades all, young and old, high and low, strong
and weak, rich and poor
They have tempered a steel that shall cleave
us a way to the sun
That shall win back the light to our eyes when the
battle is won
That is all they could do,
That is all they have done!

F.C. WISEMAN Walton Prison, Liverpool, 1940



TO Douglas Hurd
from
Peter Peel



JUSTICE FOR BRITAIN'S POLITICAL PRISONERS

SIR— As you are no doubt fully aware, the United States Senate on 20 April this year passed by an overwhelming majority a bill to afford \$20,000 per capita compensation to the surviving 60,000 (of an original 120,000) American citizens of Japanese descent who were forcibly uprooted and interned under harsh conditions in 1942 and who remained interned for the duration of the war. The reason for the high proportion of survivors after more than forty years is that so many of the internees were children. Businesses and livelihoods were inevitably lost and the Americans in general have long had a bad conscience over the whole business. Not only did the 442nd "Go For Broke" regiment which was entirely made up of Japanese Americans win more decorations than any other unit, but not one single case of treason or sabotage was ever proven or even alleged against the Japanese American people. The cost of the compensation—really not very much for the loss of four years of one's life and other hardships—amounts to an estimated \$1,300,000,000 allowing for administrative expenses. I estimate this at an equivalent of approximately 750,000,000 pounds sterling. One can applaud the sense of decency and justice which has prompted this attempt to compensate, albeit at a very late date.

In 1940, Sir Oswald and Lady Mosley and some 753 members of the British Union of Fascists were summarily arrested and interned in Wormwood Scrubs, Walton Jail and the Isle of Man. In spite of our proud boasts about Magna Carta and Habeas Corpus and the 1689 Bill of Rights, no charges and consequently no trials were conducted. Again there was no evidence of treason or sabotage. Again lives, businesses and families were brutally damaged. Men who had served with gallantry and been highly decorated in the 1914-18 war and among the most patriotic of His Majesty's subjects were among those interned. Mosley himself had served both in the infantry and the Royal Flying Corps and suffered permanent injuries to his leg. There is a good-natured and ironic account of his interment by Admiral Sir

Barry Domville, MBE, CB, CMG titled *From Admiral to Cabin Boy*.

The whole business becomes especially despicable and nauseating when—as I do [I served in the R.A.F. from 1939 to 1946]—one recalls the real treason of wartime industrial strikes that that were not uncommon until the glorious worker's paradise became involved in the war. In fact one government poster pointing out that the lives of soldiers and merchant seamen were endangered by strikes was withdrawn because it offended the dear shop stewards and the left-wing of Labour. No punishment was ever exacted for this real treason.

The interment of the Mosley's and the BUF members was done not because they were not loyal patriots but because the Left demanded it as the price of joining a coalition government under Mr. Churchill. It was spiteful, contemptible and cruel and reflects very badly on certain elements of the British population which still exist today.

It is true that most of the BUF and similar groups favoured good and friendly relations with Germany. They had the misfortune not to realise (as did Mr. Churchill) that a war with Germany would bring greater glory to Britain, the strengthening and expansion of our Imperial power ("Wider yet and wider/ Shall thy bands be set") and that we would emerge "Mightier yet." They did not understand that post-war Europe from the Channel to the Niemen would be free and democratic. If only they could have seen the wealth, power, prestige, influence and security that has devolved upon modern Britain, they might have favoured the war. But they foolishly thought that the war would result in the loss of the Empire, the impoverishment of Britain and a world ordered and run over their heads by America and Russia. Even more foolishly perhaps, they thought that Germany had never wanted war with Britain but always her good will and friendship.

Well, foolish they might have been but that doesn't merit the unjust and unconstitutional and un-British (in the best sense) foulness inflicted upon them.

Since many were middle-aged or even older and none were, as in the case of the Japanese, children, it is certain that no 50% still survive. There are probably only a few score at most still alive. I submit that to them and their dead fellows a public apology is due and compensation as far as may be. A figure of £100,000 per head comes to mind and such a sum total would still be only a small fraction of the sum authorised by the U.S.

for the Japanese victims of similar injustice. PETER PEEL

Some of our old comrades who suffered detention in British prisons and concentration camps are currently taking up their cases with their MPs. In view of the new American situation they and others may now wish to approach the Home Secretary.

The Rt. Hon. Douglas Hurd, CBE, MP.
Home Office, Queen Anne's Gate
London SW1H 9AT

18B - A Home Office 'apology' that took 20 years? - BUT WHERE IS THE FILE?

TWO months after being detained in June 1940, the mother of Leslie Grundy, Huddersfield's District Leader, wrote to the Home Secretary asking why her son had been detained. She was informed that it was on "security grounds under Regulation 18B as a person of Hostile Origin and Associations".

After the war—in 1951, he approached the Home Secretary to obtain 'elementary justice', pointing out that when 'whisked off to jail', the manner it was executed led many of his relations and some of his members to believe that he was 'involved in something of a treacherous nature' as 'such things could not happen in Britain', and was assumed that 'the security services knew something which it was not in the country's interest to divulge'.

The Home Office letter made the situation worse because his mother and wife began to think he had been deceiving them. He was not able to comfort them because strict censorship of prison mail left him unaware of the situation. "Could anything be more despicable than this, make a man incommunicado by imprisoning him under 18B, and then proceed to give false information to his wife and mother unknown to him".

In lengthy correspondence with Home Office he continued to press his case and at one stage was told that the information "was not readily available", and that some of his papers could have been destroyed. He persisted in every way available and 'ultimately', Richard Sharples, Minister of State admitted to his M.P. that "there was no evidence to suggest that he was in any way associated with the country's enemies" and that "the Home Office letter of 16 September 1940 was in error", concluding with "I am sorry that Mr. Grundy should have felt a sense of grievance, and I hope that this letter will remove it".

The letter was dated 12 October 1971, 20 years after Mr. Grundy had initiated his pursuit of justice. No doubt it has removed his sense of grievance!

FOOTNOTE: His file is not available for public viewing at the Public Record Office under the 30 year Rule. Line 700 odd British Union files that have been 'lost', or 'missing' or 'destroyed' for being of "no historical interest".

And if you believe that.....

Political Prisoners of Camp X:3.



They include Tony Dickson, Arthur Marson, Don O'Byrne, Bill Luckin and Dougie Mann. Among other familiar faces are believed to be Apple and Casack.

£130,000 and a public apology from the Government should be the entitlement of this group of British Union boys according to Dr. Peel. Photographed at Pevril Camp, Peel, Isle of Man in 1941, only two however are known to be alive.



24 yr old Mason working in NHQ in 1935 when "I was Francis-Hawkins's office boy"

TWENTYSIXTH of June 1940. How I remember it. For it was the day they came for me - at my workplace Woolwich Arsenal. Three of them from the Special Branch to arrest me and take me to Brixton Prison.

After a few days I was transferred to the new Ascot Concentration Camp, converted from Bertram Mills Circus winter quarters and run like a prisoner of war camp. Members of BRITISH UNION, Anglo-Italians, Germans and other nationalities arriving from all parts of Great Britain to total several hundred.

With the approach of winter with food short and just one blanket and a little straw I became a little bored with the cold existence so when the transfer to other camps was initiated I thought it time for a change. One member wished to stay near London for domestic reasons so I took his place and landed up at York Race-course Concentration Camp.

It was a bad move. Drums for toilets, living under the grandstand and snow on the ground: and looked in most of the time it was even worse than Ascot.

But not for long for after a couple of weeks my 'switch' was discovered and I was returned to Ascot.

After some time we were all transferred to Walton Goal, our escort the Canadian Army. Before departure, we were addressed by the officer in charge who said he hoped there would be no trouble.



Mason - behind the drum, marching with his Limehouse boys in 1938

"So I said to myself 'Mason, you are going to escape'."

From "Mason's Place", South Australia where he has lived for some 30 years, ARTHUR MASON, one-time BUF "I" Squad and Limehouse District Leader—holder of the Bronze Distinction for service and devotion to the Cause and double escaper from British Concentration Camps, comes his story of.....

MY FIRST ESCAPE

Or how I became a Prisoner of War of my own Country

But if there was... a couple of rifle shots rang out to explain his statement.

During the journey to Liverpool the attitude of the soldiers changed. They had been told we were German spies but when they saw the large number of benedicted ex-servicemen of the 1914-18 war in detention they became uncomfortable and questioned.

British Union's old soldiers were not backward in telling the true story.

At Walton we were placed in a Wing that had not been used for some time. Littered with pigeon droppings, toilets that didn't work, and looked up day and night. Fortunately this did not last long, the next move being to Huyton where a housing estate had been converted to still another Concentration Camp.

Dead body found in Walton Goal

On the first day, we found a dead body, believed to be Jewish, hanging behind a door. The previous occupants had been 'enemy aliens', so many of them that some had to sleep on the ground outside.

A large number had been sent to Canada losing their lives when their ship the "SS Andora Star" was torpedoed, including a friend of mine, an Italian cafe owner from Poplar.

His wife and children, left to run the business, had suffered the ordeal of having the cafe smashed by a mob when he was arrested.

The Army never knew how many were in the Camp. We used to change places after being counted rejoining the ranks lower down so I said to myself "Mason, you are going to escape".

Through the wire and on to a bus

I planned to get out with Markel, a member from South London, and with the help of Whitbread of Brixton, and Ambrose of East London, made a ladder to go against the barbed wire fence that surrounded the camp and sports-field.

The guards had look out boxes high above the wire but at certain times came down and marched towards each other, so on the chosen night we moved as soon as they left the boxes, the ladder was against the fence, up we went, a jump down, and we were crawling towards the second wire into the sportsfield, leaving the ladder to be removed by our comrades.

Gaining the second wire and cutting it with cutters 'retrieved' from the tuck-shop, we cleared the final obstacle, the fence at the end of the sportsfield, and in the pitch darkness I lost Markel.

Finding a road within hailing distance I walked it for a short time and found a bus stop and chanced a wait. I was in luck for along came a bus and I was on it, up the stairs and on to the first available seat.

In due course I stole a side glance at my fellow passenger on the same seat.

And there was Markel!

Liverpool's Lime Street Station was the destination which suited us fine, and in no time, with cash from the linings of our jackets we bought tickets for London on a train due out in half an hour.

Almost immediately police whistles sounded through the station, and thinking we had been found, hid behind some luggage. We soon guessed it was some other rogues they were after, chanced the platform, boarded the train, and

HARBOURING ESCAPEE PRISONER

A former member of the British Union of Fascists who had escaped from detention camp was found by the police asleep in the bedroom of a London house.

This was stated at North London yesterday when John Wilson (38) and his wife, Ada Wilson (28), both described as of Lauriston Road, South Hackney, were each sentenced to six weeks' hard labour for harbouring an escaped prisoner of war—Arthur Leonard Mason—a detainee under Regulation 8B of the Defence (General Regulations), 1939, and with assisting him with intent to prevent, hinder, and interfere with his apprehension.

Wilson, in evidence, said that Mason told him he had been bombed out and released from internment, and so Wilson took him in. Mrs. Wilson said that Mason told her that he was one of 300 released internees.

without further mishap arrived in London.

We shook hands and parted and I have never seen or heard of Markel since!

In London I made my way to Forest Gate to find friends only to find the street completely bombed out. I did find Mrs. Wise whose son Len was detained, had a chat then on to Bethnal Green where I found Johnny Wilson whose mother kept a laundry shop. They kindly put me up for a few days during which time I met several members.

I also went to Paddington to meet Yorky, otherwise Arthur Rawlinson who was in the "I" Squad at the Black House, Chelsea in 1934. I had a good meal at his home and he gave me his identity card saying he could get another later.

Returning to East London I ran into P.C. Edwards from Arbours Square Station, Stepney in Mare Street, Hackney. Chatting with him and his wife he remarked that he thought I was inside. I said I had been released "two days ago" then went on my way. We had many friends among the police in East London.

I next visited two members in North London given to me by BU detainee Peter Gibbs. Whilst waiting in a queue at a bus stop a police car drew up, had a good look at us, and as they pulled away I was persuaded that the glasses I did not normally wear had done the trick and I boarded the next bus and arrived at my destination.

'Feeling like a spot of country air..'

After a good chat I returned to the Wilson's in Bethnal Green and when I telephoned the North London lads the next day they told me that within ten minutes of leaving the police arrived looking for me. My disguise had not fooled them but guess I had at the other end. They'd followed the bus and lost the house!

Feeling like a spot of country air I left the next day for Hertfordshire to meet a Limehouse member who had been bombed out of his home. He was a long distance lorry driver and was off that day to Glasgow and I accepted his invitation to join him. We arrived during an air-

MASON'S ESCAPE

Whitbread:
helped
with
escape



raid and had to spend the night in a depot of the Free Norwegian Army - our destination!

Two days later we returned to Hitchin and I made my way back to London, and when I arrived at Mare Street, Hackney at dusk I had an uncomfortable feeling that I should not return to the Wilson's and I let a couple of buses go by. I decided to chance it, was made very welcome and turned in about 11 pm.

At 6.30 the next morning I was awakened by a banging and shouting outside. It was a police raid and they had chosen the next door house in mistake. A fight developed there and Johnny Wilson, seeing what was happening, ran up to warn me to get out of the window, but before I could make it the police had forced the front door, Johnny was arrested, and they entered my room with "Arthur Mason?", a question which to me sounded absurd. I answered with some amusement - "you should know, we know each

other very well", and I was then taken to Arbour Square and placed in a cell.

Later that day, Fraser, the Special Branch man who had arrested me at Woolwich Arsenal, arrived covered in dirt and grease and in a foul mood.

"You are going to pay for this" he said. He had been looking for me for two days outside the wrong house!

After questioning me on my movements since my escape and the source of my money and identity card - which I said I had stolen to cover Yorky, he departed. Almost immediately the Chief at Arbour Square came in with a huge dinner saying "Don't worry Arthur. He doesn't like us. Nasty bit of work"!

By the end of the day I was in Brixton Jail and enjoyed meeting some old comrades. But not for long for the next morning two police officers escorted me to Buxton and handed over to a military escort - four soldiers and a Sergeant, to return me to Huyton.

'You will have to use Force'

On the handing over, the Sergeant tried to treat me as if I was a soldier, threatening what would happen if I gave trouble. I told police escort that in view of this behaviour I was not going to

go voluntarily and they would have to use force. Just as it looked as if a rough house was going to start, the police spoke to the Sergeant. They said they knew me and if I was treated correctly there would be no trouble. At this the Sergeant calmed down. We all shook hands and the army boys were fine, chatting all the way to Liverpool, and supplying ample grub.

Back at Huyton it was again the cells where I found Hempel of Brixton who had been caught with suitcase trying to escape over the wire. Worried over his family like many others, he had decided to escape without help from other detainees, which was a mistake.

Next day the whole camp was moving to the Isle of Man but Hempel and I had a special guard. We met the others at the railway station but were not allowed to join them. After boarding a boat for Douglas we watched the loading of the luggage of a thousand detainees and saw dockers taking up the cases by crane and deliberately dropping many of them, smashing the contents.

Arriving on the island we trained for Peel and then marched to the camp on the sea front, private houses converted and taken over by the Army.

For Hempel and I however it was the cells where we remained for a month without



Arthur Mason today:
At peace with his
his memories

any exercise after being sentenced by Commandant Ryan.

Back in London, my first escape had ended badly for Johnny and Ada Wilson.

They were charged with harbouring an escaped 'prisoner of war' under the Defence Regulations and sentenced to six weeks hard labour.

Arthur Mason made a second escape - from the Isle of Man and was on his way to Ireland when captured in a row-boat.

His treatment on return caused a prolonged demonstration - described by the media as a 'riot' by his comrades at Peel Concentration Camp.

He tells his story in the next Comrade.

The Work Force Owners not Moaners

Before the last war, it was the philosopher Alexander Raven Thomson who took his ideas out onto the streets of Britain. In 'The Coming Corporate State' he described in fine detail Mosley's then current corporatist policy. All professions and industries would be owned and run by a corporation of workers, management and consumers who would share power. Government would act purely as a 'watchdog', intervening only when required.

At the time, this synthesis of labour and Capital was thought to combine the social justice of orthodox socialism with the enterprise of capitalism in a new system that offered fair reward to all in return for responsibility.

After the war, Mosley and Raven Thomson refined their economic thinking to counteract the possibility of bureaucracy, most succinctly described in an early Union

THOUGHTS THAT COME IN A

By GORDON
BECKWELL



A Column
of
Forward
Looking
personal
views on
Mosley
Thought

Movement booklet: 'Syndicalism - A Workers Policy'. Each industry would be owned by all who worked for it: the only exception would be smaller businesses run by the individuals who started them and were still their motivating force. This policy of Worker Ownership stood in stark contrast to State Ownership and Private Ownership.

How well I remember that booklet which left such an impression on a youthful mind, with its modernistic Man and Machine cover motif by the late Alexander Bowie, the Blackshirt illustrator and cartoonist.

Later, in 1955, Mosley sought to simplify the policy for easier implementation. He produced the Wage-Price Mechanism under which every working persons reward would be pegged exactly to production measured in the output of goods and services. Was it not perfect justice that people should share precisely in the growing fruits of their labour by hand

and mind, none the more and none the less? The greater incentives of such a system, coupled with the ability of science to increase the means to produce, would create undreamt of prosperity, and a stable economy, for the sum of goods and services would equate exactly to the sum of goods and services produced. At the proverbial stroke, inflation and deflation would be relegated from Economics to Economic History.

Those who have followed Mosley's economic thinking over 50 years dare to suggest that only a policy based on the principles described can resolve the conflict of labour and capital: by building a third system from which all men and women can fairly benefit.

'Worker Ownership' and 'Syndicalism' today seem archaic and class-ridden terms. Perhaps there would be a need to call the whole thing 'Co-prosperity Schemes' or somesuch. No doubt the P.R. boys could soon improve on that.

A Parliament that's just the Job

Few people would be happy spending their working life producing computers for a company run by a man who knew nothing about electronics.

Yet how many Government Ministers have a previous working knowledge in the area of their responsibilities?

Before and after the war Mosley advocated the Occupational Franchise whereby prospective M.P.s would stand on a vocational basis and be elected, or rejected, only by voters in their own trade, industry or profession. So engineers would vote for engineers, farmers for farmers, health workers for health workers and housewives for housewives.

The subject on which we can all judge with most authority is the task we spend most hours a day doing. Thus would be elected a parliament and government of experts - elected by experts.

When listening to the brightest ideas of the young hopefuls of the existing orders, how often do they put forward proposals with such clear advantage and simple logic?

MAY DAY BUFFET SUPPER

The spirit of comradeship in the movements led by Oswald Mosley was strongly in evidence at a **BRITISH UNION DAY** Buffet Supper at a London hotel on May 7th.

The steady growth of **FOM** was indicated by the numbers present from all parts of Britain, the youthful faces of many surely born too late ever to have heard OM speak.

Mike Quill reminded those present that "we gathered not only to remember the past, but to re-dedicate ourselves to a mission that would never end".

Robert Saunders OBE spoke of the valuable work of **COMRADE** in establishing truth through research. More than ever Britain still needed men and women willing to emulate O.M.'s supreme example in thought, word and deed. A great void existed in politics waiting to be filled. Those who seek to achieve great things in great ways must not be deterred by threats or be bought by bribes of easier ways. In return they will gain the respect of friends and opponents alike and the ultimate reward of true self-respect. Above all they must cultivate the mantle of diplomacy in propagating ideas for it must be admitted that harsh words do not easily win new friends.

Don Barnston congratulated **COMRADE** for obviously attracting the younger element for on them rested the future: not only to give new form to, and develop Mosley's ideas, but also his indomitable spirit and courage. He gave a special warning against the new danger created by China's new open-door industrialisation programme. Before long, world and European markets would be flooded with a new wave of cheap labour goods. If Japan had almost brought Britain to her knees through unemployment, China would finish the job given the inaction of our misrulers. Only Mosley's Europe could give the opportunity of "real prosperity and economic security for all people, and races, in their own lands".

The message of **BRITISH UNION DAY '88** was clear. **OSWALD MOSLEY: the Man from yesterday. OSWALD MOSLEY: the Man for Tomorrow.** **Jeremy Walker**

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Commemoration Dinner

Saturday 19th November
1988

Published for Friends of
O.M. by John Christian,
101, Orwell Court,
Farnall Road, London, E8.

OBITUARY

FRED SHEPHERD

Many old comrades will mourn the death of **FRED SHEPHERD** who died on 30th April, aged 66.

Joining Mosley's **BRITISH UNION** at the birth of the East London mass movement as a Greyshirt at Shoreditch Branch when little more than a schoolboy it created a way of life that stayed with him until the very end.

In 1940, when all his older comrades were being detained, his local Police Chief called at his workplace and instead of arresting him took him to the Army Recruiting Centre and 'persuaded' him to 'sign on'. Two days later he was taken by police car to an army depot and Fred was 'in for the duration'. It was an exercise that he always considered a kindly act even if he did find himself almost overnight in India.

From the RA Fred volunteered for the Commandos & saw service in Burma after which he was transferred to the Welsh Fusiliers to be the first British regiment to enter Japan.

After the war, he joined Union Movement, stood as a candidate in local elections and became North London Organiser.

In latter years he became President of The League of St. George and was committed to the unity of European movements.

Though not always conventional he retained a wide circle of old comrades, a mark of this popularity being the attendance at his funeral where an appropriate farewell was given by old comrades with the singing of British Union's pre-war "Marching Song".

He would have liked that.

THANKS

DONATION: From the anonymous 'D' in the North...Thanks

COMRADE Back Numbers

Comrade is a free newsletter but because of increasing demand for back numbers which have to be produced singly photocopy, we have to make the following charges. Please add postage.

Numbers 1 and 10 18p
Numbers 2 and 3 36p
Number 11 72p
All others 64p

* Greetings *

To Lady Mosley
on her Birthday
17th June

LETTERS TO EDITOR

Honours Even!

In the latest issue of **"COMRADE"** [April/May], I was rather surprised to see in an article by Peter Marcy on the Mosley Archive, the comment that some B.U.F. branch membership lists "seem to have now fallen by dubious means into the hands of private collectors".

For his information, private collectors have been in possession of branch records for many years. In my case, I am only in possession of such documents because I persuaded the original owner not to destroy them.

Over the years the only people who have made any effort to preserve old documents and general miscellanea have been collectors. It's no good people who have just woken-up to the fact that our political heritage is disappearing, now complaining that so much material resides in private collections.

Where does Peter Marcy think all this material would be today if collectors had not acquired it over the years.

JAMES MILLER

PETER MARCY writes - "Mr. Miller makes a fair point. I was, however, referring to membership lists copied by various snoopers in the 1930s (such as the 'complete list' held by the Jewish Board of Deputies) or branch lists seized illegally during the early months of the War."

The Editor writes: "Friends of O.M. are grateful to those collectors whose motives are as described in Mr. Miller's letter. These are known to us.

We can also understand the feeling engendered in old Blackshirts like Peter Marcy by the mercenary collectors in the commercial field, trading for profit those things which played a part in the struggle and sacrifice and high purpose of Mosley's British Union.

It is timely that all collectors be reminded that such items as Honour Standards were the property of British Union and issued on loan to branches via their various commercial companies.

All the pre-war companies are under the legal umbrella of an existing company, and it is possible that a claim for the return of its properties will be pursued when these appear for sale in the commercial field. JC

FOR SALE

"Comrades in Struggle": A small number of this C60 audio cassette issued by FOM of Oswald Mosley's speeches in the 1930s are still available from the second production run. It includes excerpts from Olympia [1934] & Earl's Court [1939]. Note that because of condition of original material, the quality in parts is less than desirable. Price £5.00 Box W104

OLD COMRADES



In Memoriam

"Mark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages"

- BOWMAN, William James:** Plating District Manchester British Union: In July 1939
- CAMPBELL, James H:** Manchester British Union and Union Movement: In July 1939
- COLE, Captain T.F:** one of first officers, Burgess Hill British Union: In May 1939
- CRABTREE, Bill:** Bury, Lancashire British Union and Union Movement: In July 1975
- DIMOCK, The Rev. G.H.:** Vicar of St. Bede's, Bristol and British Union: Detained 1940 under 18B Regulations: In July 1956
- DOWDY, John:** British Union Parliamentary Candidate Evesham Member Worcestershire National Farmers Union: At 94, In July 1978
- HUDSON, Comdr. C.E.:** OBE, RD, RNR Rtd.: District Leader Bognor British Union: Detained 18B 1940: Camp Leader at Huyton: Died as result of ill health in a British Concentration Camp In June 1946
- MOSLEY, Maude Lady:** mother and loyal supporter of OM: Head of Women's BUF in early days: On 20 June 1948
- TEMPLE COTTON, Rafe:** British Union Inspector, Devon: Parliamentary Candidate, Exeter: detained 18 June 1940: On 18 June 1985
- THOMSON, Palmer:** British Union Aylesbury Branch: Detained 18B when in poor health. Died in Walton Jail hospital shortly after detention: In June 1940

WANTED

FOR CASH: Items related to the political and personal life of Sir Oswald Mosley. Also material on the New Party, British Union of Fascists and Union Movement. Box C101

RECORDS: Cash offered for full speech of Sir Oswald Mosley at Greenwich 13 November 1935 recorded by Huskisson Ltd, London. Box S102

INFORMATION: Mature Scottish student required details and information on activities, events, and personalities pertaining to New Party, BUF, and Union Movement in Scotland. Currently studying Political Theory and Political History, it is for a personal research project, now in its 14th year, in the life and work of Sir Oswald Mosley that assistance would be appreciated. Box M103

INFORMATION: Honour Standards: British Union Honour Standards issued in 1939 consisted of the Action Flash within an Oakleaf Circle surrounded by a Point. Beneath was a metal plaque marked "British Union" and beneath this a larger Circle and Flash on a red cloth background. After the War, Six Standards from the original Sixty were cut off above the "British Union" plaque, the top of one of these held in safekeeping by FOM. If any reader has any information concerning these Standards to confirm their existence we could at least confirm record their existence. In days to come, new generations may wish to acknowledge these visible expressions of the pride of a great and historic Movement's honourable struggle. Gordon Beckwell

COMRADE



Newsletter of the Friends of O.M. No.14: August/September 1988

"The Spirit Lives.....The Rest Will Follow"



Dick Bellamy
1936

"As for Britain, it seems unable to make up its mind whether or not to become part of a United Europe or even whether or not to remain a United Kingdom..."

AS a tribute to DICK BELLAMY, British Union's historian and senior surviving officer who died in August in his 88th year, and because we believe it appropriate on the anniversary of the start of the Second World War, we use his accusing words from the preface of his unpublished **"We Marched With Mosley"** to tell the sad story of a half-century of betrayal and decline born out of party political inadequacy, incompetence and cowardice as Britain "shuffled out of Empire, Europe, leadership and history."

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

DAY K.G. Age 20

and

BROCKING G.T. Age 22

RAF 9 Sqn and members of British Union: Aircraftman 2nd Class voluntary Air Gunners Wellington L4275: killed in action bombing German battle-ships, Brunsbittel, Keil Canal on second day of 1939/45 War, 4 September 1939.

The First Official Casualties

and the First of Mosley's young Black-shirts to die in a war that corrupt politicians were later to imprison their Black-shirt comrades without charge or trial on the falsehood of disloyalty to Britain.

Ken Day, found near the Elbe Lightships was buried with full military honours at Cuxhaven Cemetery. His body now lies and is remembered at Becklingen War Cemetery, Soltau, Germany. George Brocking was never found. He is remembered on the Air Force Memorial at Runnymede with 20,546 other airmen who have no known graves.

Theirs: A Greater Glory

BRUNING, CLEMENT:

British Union Admin. Officer & NHQ Speaker: Wood Green Candidate: On 17 August 1942: Age 31: In German Concentration Camp: Buried Cracow (Rakowicki) Commonwealth Plot Poland.

THEY BETRAYED THE PAST

AND SOLD THE FUTURE

Young Britons born in the latter half of the Twentieth Century cannot begin to understand what the British Empire meant to their forebears at the century's beginning. Nor can they be expected to comprehend the sense of fierce loyalty to "The Mother Country" felt by men in Australia, India, Canada, New Zealand, South Africa and the Colonies - and not only by those of British stock.

When war was declared in 1914 the descendants of those men and women who had been banished from Britain in and after 1788 to an empty Continent on the far side of the world rushed to Britain's defence, and 328,000 of them served overseas, representing a huge proportion of Australia's still tiny population.

The long lists of 1914-18 war dead on every Australian war memorial testify to the enormous losses this young nation suffered. It was the same elsewhere in the Empire.

When war came again in 1939, two million Indians gladly volunteered for service, and the 14th Army which captured Burma from the Japanese consisted mostly of Indian Divisions.

And to what end was it all? Ever since Britain "shuffled out of Empire, Europe, leadership and history" Burma has been in a state of political chaos,

economic instability and civil war, mostly under a Socialist dictatorship.

Nothing can be more shameful than Britain's undignified scuttle from Burma, India, Ceylon, Malaya, Palestine and Africa, especially from Rhodesia where we betrayed our own splendid people who had stood by us superbly with blood and treasure in both World Wars.

To India we bequeathed chaos and corruption, and probably two million deaths by massacre, famine and exhaustion at the end of the Raj and the precipitate partition of Moslem from Hindu India.

In Palestine, under the direction of Ernest Bevin - hailed in some quarters as a strong man and patriot - we hauled down the flag and absconded almost overnight, leaving two million Arabs, many of them fellow Christians who had lived there longer than the Anglo-Saxons had inhabited England, to the increasingly harsh

→ 2

THE BLACKSHIRT BROTHERS BRUNING

GUY...imprisoned without charge in a **BRITISH** Concentration Camp CLEMENT to die in a **GERMAN** Concentration Camp



Clement Bruning

When GUY BRUNING was imprisoned without charge in May 1940 under 188 Defence Regulations, he possibly thought it timely that he should suffer for his beliefs. Blackshirt brother PETER carried the facial mark of a razor slash from an attack at a Manchester meeting in 1934, and Blackshirt brother CLEMENT had already lost his freedom. He was in a German concentration camp.

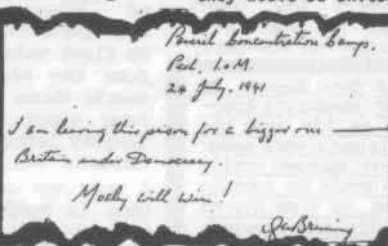
When Guy was released from Peveril Concentration Camp, Isle of Man, leaving his autographed loyalty to Mosley with still detained 'INKY' IRVINE, he would have carried a thought for Clement and they day when they would be united.

But it was not to be for just over a year later his brother lay dead in the German camp.

We do not know how CLEMENT BRUNING came to be in a German concentration camp but believe it reasonable to assume that it was connected with his loyalty to Britain.

He is therefore recorded in our Roll of Honour with the two young Blackshirts who were the first to die in the war they tried prevent.

The lies of the past stand revealed. The loyalty of Mosley's men second to none.



SOLD AND BETRAYED

overlordship of the Israelis, dominated by Irgun and Stern Gang terrorists under the baleful direction of Menachim Begin, himself a fanatical terrorist.

In our headlong retreat from Black Africa we betrayed all who had ever trusted us, and left hapless tribes to the corruption of such as Kwame Nkrumah, self-styled 'Redeemer' and to the insane, bloodthirsty tyranny of Idi Amin.

Today, Australia, the country where I spent some of the most exciting years of my life and in which I married is to become an independent republic. Its population is no longer overwhelmingly of British stock, and if it looks to anyone at all as its Protector, it looks to the United States.

As for Britain, it seems unable to make up its mind whether or not to become part of a United Europe or even whether or not to remain a United Kingdom.

This is the sorry position as I survey the world scene towards the end of a long and arduous life in which I and my particular companions tried to preserve our Nation's position and power.

We tried to avert the doom of a great Empire, and for this patriotic endeavour we suffered ostracism and persecution for the rest of our lives.

O.M. and R.R.B.

WHEN Dick Bellamy was in a party of old members lunching with O.M. in the early 1950s, he had suggested that someone ought to write the history of British Union before "much else is forgotten and lost" and that someone "ought to be authorised to write our story".

"I think that you Bellamy are the best qualified for that task," said Mosley, and the result of this conversation nearly 20 years later was the massive work described by Len Wise in his tribute to Dick on this page.

In *Comrade's* tribute we have led with the preface of his story.

In our farewell, let us also end with the concluding piece of his love inspired story.

"I have written of these personal and political triumphs and tribulations so that succeeding generations may know what manner of men and women followed Mosley and what manner of man was Mosley to inspire them...."

To the many thousands of us who supported him he represented the best and possibly greatest national leader

From John Charnley, British Union District Leader, Hull
(written for Dick's Memorial services)

I am deeply sorry that I cannot be with you today, but it is from the heart that my thoughts come to you now.

I well remember the time so many years ago when I stayed with the Bellamy's and my son remained behind to spend the remains of his school holiday. On his return home he said "I like Mr. Bellamy Dad. I like all his family, especially Jack". When asked why he replied "I don't really know but there is something different about him. He is nice". Coming from a schoolboy it is worth recalling. He is nice. That just about sums up Dick Bellamy, but to some of us he was more than nice. He was a true Comrade in the real sense of the term.

I had known of him before we met and it was an occasion I recall as if only yesterday. It was at a Blackshirt meeting in Hull in 1935 where after escorting an elderly lady from the hall during a disturbance, we were met with a hail of bricks and in some danger of serious injury. Dick did not hesitate and charged the crowd, the ferocity of his charge driving them back and we were able to re-enter the hall uninjured. From that moment he was someone special in my life.

Old comrades privileged to be present must be proud to join his family even though the occasion is a sad one. Only one other man in my life has made made a greater impression on me and it was especially important that I joined with Dick a few years ago about our association and friendship with Oswald Mosley in the BBC documentary "Britain in the Thirties".

To those of the newer generations, let me remind you of Mosley's message to his followers in the 1930s.

"Together in Britain we have lie a flame that the ages shall not extinguish; guard that sacred flame my Brother Blackshirts until it illumines the whole of Britain, and lights again the path of mankind".
Dick Bellamy carried that flame to the end of his earthly life and it never flickered or became dull. Thus shall I always remember him. And so to my last words.

God rest you Dick,
God rest you.

From John Christian:

● Editor, "Comrade".

Although I only met Dick Bellamy once, and then only for a short hour, I had known of him since my days as a young Blackshirt in the early

Britain could have known. It has been our country's tragedy as well as his that his matchless talents were never placed in that supreme position where he could be seen by all for what we knew him to be... potentially the greatest Englishman of all time." J.C

Old Comrades say

SO LONG DICK

From Robert Saunders, OBE:

● British Union District Leader, Dorset West.

After an adventitious life of fluctuating fortune, RICHARD REYNELL "Dick" BELLAMY returned to this country in the 1930s. Shocked with the conditions he found, he soon came to the conclusion that only Oswald Mosley had the answers to the many problems facing Britain. Always a man of action he joined Mosley's Movement without delay. In it he worked hard and his ability was soon recognised being appointed National Inspector.

The war saw him, like so many of his colleagues, detained under the notorious 18B. After his release he was for a time employed in Bournemouth by O.M supporter Dr. Margaret Vivian, & was later drafted in the Fire Service in Southampton.

He was always an uncompromising and courageous supporter of Mosley and his ideas and did not hesitate to make his opinions clear to all and sundry. It is this factor which no doubt has so far prevented his faciliating biography finding a publisher.

I had not met Dick since the 1960s but we have corresponded at least once a year. His lengthy letters were always interesting and full of deep thought on the ideas we shared in common. He believed that O.M would want and expect us all to be working to implement the ideas for which he had sacrificed so much.

Our sympathy goes out to his widow Hilda who we know will feel as grateful as we do for the life of a man who worked so tirelessly for a great cause.

1930s, but in that almost phenomenal bond so unique to those who followed in Mosley's wake, that special weld which transcended all normal measurement of human relationship, we were instantly as one.

We first made contact just before the birth of "Comrade" nearly three years ago and have since by telephone and lengthy letter shared the memories of the past.

A year ago we met at his then home in Norfolk. The occasion was the first gathering of East Anglian Friends of O.M. at

From Len Wise, one-time Leader

● Blackshirt Cadets and editor of the Bellamy manuscript.

Richard Reynell Bellamy joined the Movement within a few months of its foundation and became Senior Staff Officer in charge of Northern Headquarters in Manchester. A National Inspector, he was responsible for the administration of a huge area of the Midlands and North of England. In 1936 he was selected BU Parliamentary Candidate for Blackley, Manchester. He later described this period as "probably the happiest time of my life."

In his youth, R.R.B. had led a most adventurous life - as a deckhand on the South American run, a "jackaroo" in the Australian Outback, and a coffee planter (among cannibals!) in New Caladonia. He described these experiences in 2 books: *The Real South Seas* and *Mixed Bliss in Melanesia*. The latter was described by the OBSERVER'S Reviewer as "the best travel book of the year."

In R.R.B. the BUF gained an excellent administrator - but it also lost a splendid writer for he was far too busy between 1933 and 1940 to find time to put pen to paper.

After the war he became a farm steward, but in the 1950s hepatitis put an end to his working life. He thereupon decided to tell the full story of the BUF and the historical, political and social background from which it emerged. The result was a magnum opus indeed - 300,000-word text plus a further 20,000 words of Appendices. In his introductory remarks he wrote: "I feel it incumbent on myself as one of Mosley's old campaigners to set down as much as much as I can remember of the past with its high aims and devoted service, the courage and comradeship that went with them, and the turbulence and strife. I am proud to have been of that band of companions, and to have shared with them many of the adventures and experiences narrated here."

Completed in 1966, the book has since been updated and converted into 3 smaller volumes: *WE MARCHED WITH MOSLEY*, *THE MEMOIRS OF A FASCIST LEADER* and *MOSLEY IN PERSPECTIVE*. Up to the present time only a brief summary has appeared in print - his contribution to *MOSLEY'S BLACKSHIRTS*, the collection of BUF reminiscences published by Sanctuary Press in 1986.

Ipswich. Dick was by then far to ill to travel being almost confined to his chair so my wife and I paid our first and last visit.

As we met his eyes brightened and for nearly an hour his exhilaration warmed the atmosphere as we relived the days that were gone. And most probably because my wife was a New Party member, and thus one of the longest serving Mosley supporters alive, Dick held her hand throughout.

And that is how we shall always remember him.

HISTORICAL LIES

How they are perpetuated

"THE DAILY TELEGRAPH", highly regarded as a 'quality' newspaper, has an authoritative daily feature. It uses from its files a news item printed "50 years ago", and in July it printed a story of a Mosley meeting that at that time was not just a piece of bad reporting but a complete fabrication.

50 years ago...

The Daily Telegraph

July 14, 1938

CROWDS THREATEN SIR O. MOSLEY

MOUNTED and foot police reserves were drafted to the East End of London last night when disorder broke out among a huge crowd at a Fascist meeting in Mossford-street, Mile End.

Sir Oswald Mosley, who was the principal speaker, was continually heckled. Angry crowds surged round the platform throughout his speech, and only the presence of mounted police prevented serious trouble.

A number of men who appeared to be leading the uproar were led away and warned not to return. Two men were arrested and will appear at Thames Police Court this morning.

The difficulties of the police were increased when anti-Fascists set up a platform and held a meeting only a few yards from the Fascists. A cordon was kept between the two crowds while mounted police kept a lane clear.

It is now accepted that in the late 1930s there was a complete media boycott of British Union activities, apart from the occasional story of this type, leading the post-war younger historians to wrongly infer that the Mosley Movement had been in decline prior to the war.



Here are the crowds at Mossford Street saluting Mosley at the end of the meeting.

DICK BELLAMY as seen by his local paper 2 years ago

THE 50th anniversary of one of Britain's legendary political confrontations of the thirties, the "Battle of Cable Street" will have special memories for at least one Norfolk man.

Mr Dick Bellamy, now 85, of Letheringsett, was a local official and later a full-time organiser of the British Union of Fascists throughout the period.

On Sunday, October 4, 1936, several thousand Blackshirts assembled near Tower Bridge at the start of a planned march through Shoreditch to Bethnal Green, headed by Sir Oswald Mosley.

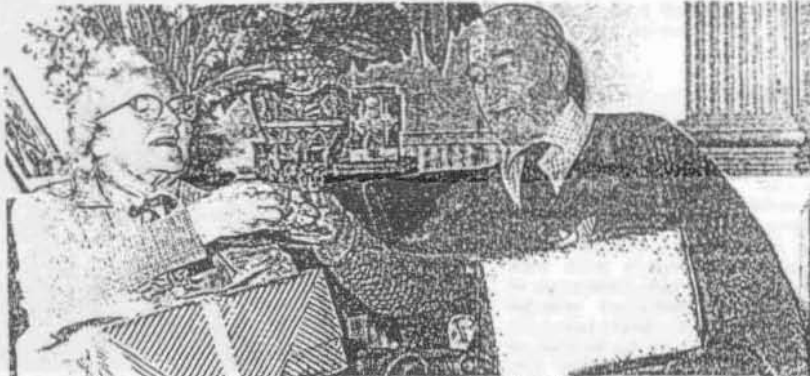
Huge crowd

Also gathered nearby was a huge crowd of spectators and anti-fascist demonstrators. Barricades were thrown up across Cable Street, and in the fights between anti-Fascists and some of the 6000 police on duty, more than 100 people, including officers, were injured, and 83 people were arrested.

The march itself never took place, Mosley having been ordered by the Metropolitan chief commissioner to call it off.

Mr Bellamy was in Liverpool at the time as one of the BUF's northern organisers. "A day or so after Cable Street, a number of us went into a local news cinema where a full-length film of the incidents was shown."

"I remember one scene in which a Blackshirt, cut off on his way to the assembly point, was shown fighting single-handed against a ring of attackers, and laying



BLACKSHIRT LOOKS BACK: Hilda and Dick Bellamy.

them out in a circle around him. The audience cheered, and we heard of similar outbursts of acclaim at other Liverpool cinemas.

"We quickly told our members to get along and see the film, but the following day it was withdrawn, I suspect by orders from on high."

Dick Bellamy joined the BUF in 1933, shortly after its formation, and not long after he and his wife Hilda had returned from New Caledonia, where he had been farming.

"The country was in a mess. I was particularly horrified by the indifference shown by the middle classes to the plight of the unemployed."

Living at Wingham, he started a Blackshirt branch at Downham Market, and the following year was appointed full-time organiser for the South-West Norfolk constituency. Among many public meetings he organised in East Anglia was one in Norwich Market Place in July 1936 when Mosley addressed a crowd estimated by the police at 10,000.

"OM took some of us for a meal afterwards at the Royal Hotel, and I remember how impressed he was with the fair and factual

reporting of our activities by the Eastern Daily Press. He said it was in the finest Whig tradition, and asked us to convey his appreciation to the editor, Mr Cozens-Hardy.

'Inner fire'

"Mosley was a very noble character. He had great inner fire, vast ability and courage. His followers worshipped him, and he simply loved them.

"As war approached our meetings and marchers were getting bigger all the time. The mass of British Union's membership was working-class, especially in East London. In the north-west and Liverpool where I worked, it was largely the unemployed working class."

But what about the reputation for violence?

"The vast majority of meetings were held in perfect order and enthusiasm. As for the others, well, this animal defends itself when attacked. Not original I know, but it describes the circumstances."

Dick Bellamy left the BUF staff in 1939, moving to Canterbury where he took a job in the local barracks, meanwhile running the local

Fascist branch. In May 1940 Mosley and some of his leading officials were arrested under emergency regulations that empowered the imprisonment of persons without charge.

The following week Mr. Bellamy was detained in the next wave of arrests, and spent the next 400 days in a number of jails and camps throughout the country.

"A policeman came round and told me that my husband had been arrested," said Mrs Bellamy. "I asked him what the charge was, and he said 'none'."

Mr Bellamy said: "We opposed the war politically because we said it was against Britain's interests, and would leave it weakened, though we made it clear we would fight an invader."

After his release he joined the fire service in Southampton. Following D-Day he tired of the inaction, and applied for agricultural work. In time this brought him back to Norfolk. "I spent a year digging ditches on the Royal Estate, and loved it." He later worked on the Holkham Estate, and more recently at Wells.

WE NAIL THE LIE

In the interest of historical truth we reprint, here and on Page 4, from Action of 23 July 1938, irrefutable evidence to support this charge.

MILE END

FOR those who believe that our country is decadent, for those who think that years of poverty have killed the splendid spirit of our people there could be no more enlightening experience than a visit to one of Mosley's terrific meetings in East London.

Even the old members of British Union who have knowledge of the huge throngs that have gathered in such places as Victoria Park to cheer the Leader of the modern movement were amazed at the dimensions of the crowd which attended at Mile End on Wednesday last.

For long past the residents of this district have been duped by political vultures anxious to exploit despair in the people. Today they might as well pack up and admit their defeat, for Mosley has removed the despair on which they built their creeds of hatred and bitterness, and put hope in its place. Hope that in its turn has created the determination, demonstrated at Mile End, to follow Mosley, come what may, to the Greater Britain of the future.

The most glowing words in the English language cannot adequately convey the thrill these meetings possess. Here in Mile End was a crowd so densely packed and covering so great an area that it was impossible to see its limits. Countless thousands of upturned faces were tense with interest as each word from Mosley was hungrily absorbed. Low murmurs of approval swelled to mighty acclamations when he delved to the root of present-day problems and exposed the alien interests that thrive on British suffering.

"When we tell you of these things," he thundered, "we are threatened with arrest. Yet today the great newspapers are forced to recognise that the people of Britain are waking to the menace of aliens in our midst, and are forced by public opinion to devote space to these matters. Why then don't they arrest Lord Beaverbrook? They use every weapon against members of our movement because they know that British Union and British Union alone challenges their corrupt interests."

That pillar of democratic decadencies, the Daily Telegraph, reported that Mosley's platform was surrounded by angry crowds, a statement that went very near the truth. For these East Londoners are indeed angry. Angry at the long betrayal of democratic politicians and proud that they have found in Oswald Mosley a man in whom they may trust.

Reprinted from "Action" July 23 1938

Courtesy "Eastern Daily Press"

THE 50 YR OLD LIE

"HISTORY IS BUNK"

said Henry Ford..
And so is the
media suggested
history of
BRITISH UNION

July 23, 1938

ACTION, No. 127, Page Three

MODERN PRESS TECHNIQUE

FACTS VERSUS FICTION

HOW PRESS REPORTED LIMEHOUSE MEETING

THE respective editorial staffs of the *Daily Telegraph* and the *Daily Worker* were able to exercise their skill to show their capacity for correctly presenting facts by writing up for their readers accounts of the Mosley meeting in Limehouse, on Wednesday, July 13.

The facts were as follows:—

Mosley addressed a crowd of many thousands of people who packed into Mossford Street to hear him. The crowd all the time was enthusiastic and cheered him to the echo. At no time was there any disorder whatsoever near the van and at no time during the speech were there any mounted police in Mossford Street or anywhere near the van. In fact so orderly was the crowd that there were a few small children from nearby houses walking round the van who would hardly have been there had there been angry crowds charging.

There was a line of police some distance away from the van but it was not a cordon in the generally accepted term because people could pass freely through it. In the next street there was a Red meeting which was fairly well attended by Jews and other aliens.

PRESS FACTS.

THE *Daily Telegraph* headed their account: "CROWDS THREATEN SIR O. MOSLEY'S MEETING—MOUNTED POLICE CALLED," and went on to say:—

"Sir O. Mosley was constantly heckled. Angry crowds surged round the platform throughout the speech

and only the presence of mounted police prevented serious trouble.

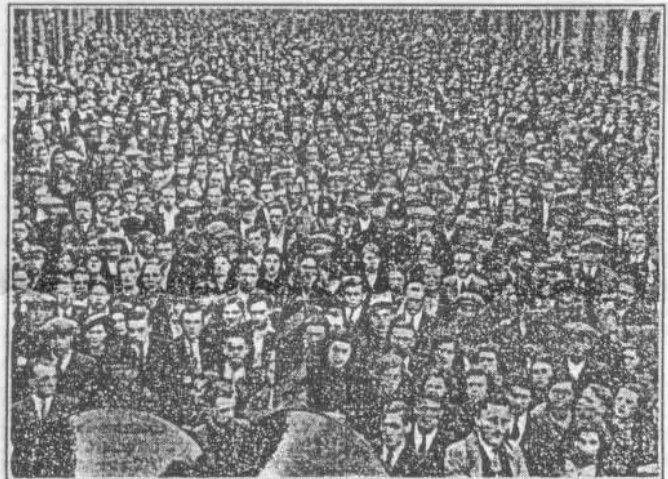
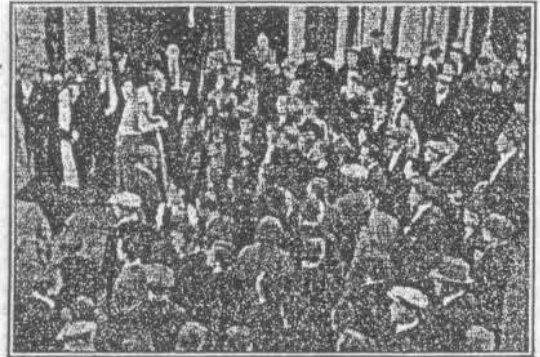
"The difficulties of the police were increased when anti-Fascists set up their platform and held a meeting only a few yards from the Fascists. A cordon was kept between the two crowds whilst mounted police kept a lane clear. . . ."

RED FRENZY

THE frenzy of the Red paper is really comical to behold. They are evidently greatly incensed by *Action's* publication of photographs of Red counter-demonstrations which have been ludicrous flops. Throughout this campaign we have been able to publish photographs of Mosley's great mass meetings, together with photographs of Red counter-demonstrations attended by a tiny handful. The bright lads of the Red paper accordingly set to work to counter this method but, lacking genuine photographs to prove their point, were reduced to publishing the top picture shown on this page as a photograph of Mosley's meeting in Mile End. Their little difficulty is (a) that the speaker is obviously not Mosley; (b) that he is not speaking from a van or (c) using a loud speaker; therefore, anyone who has ever attended a Mosley meeting can see at a glance that this is not a picture of a Mosley meeting.

When our opponents are reduced to such childish tactics their cause is indeed proved to be lost. If they must turn out lying propaganda they would be well advised in future not to employ lies that any child with any knowledge of the subject knows to be a lie.

(A full description and a further picture of the Mile End meeting appear on pages 8 and 9.)



Bottom picture is the orderly crowd listening to Mosley at Mile End. This was the crowd described by the "*Daily Telegraph*" as follows: "Angry crowds surged round the platform throughout the speech and only the presence of mounted police prevented serious trouble." The effort of the Red paper was even more comical, they actually printed the photo shown above as a picture of Mosley's meeting. British Union must be advancing rapidly if our opponents of right and left are reduced to such tactics.

How I disturbed the Peace of Walton Goal

By **LESLIE GRUNDY**

ON the morning of June 4th 1940, the officer in charge of 'C' Wing came to my cell, the nearest to his office, and asked my help to get breakfast for my fellow prisoners, and in the next few days I helped dish out all meals until we established some form of service. He later thanked me for helping and explained that in prison routine each wing had a 'cleaner' known as a "Trusty", and that this made life easier to bear in a good 'nick' because he was allowed out of his cell more often.

So I became 'C' Wing Cleaner and could choose who I wished to help deliver meals and collect pots.

I soon began to take stock of my position. I must

adapt to my changed life. I would carry out physical exercises and do all I could to maintain health. I would occupy my mind with work as much as possible. I must prepare for the worst. I could be in prison indefinitely.

One night when all was quite, I heard a clock strike nine. I moved a chair to the window to make a note of the sun's shadow, as in a sundial, to give me some idea of bed-time.

As I looked out I heard a shout from another wing. It was Hawksley from Kent, but before I could say much a warder I had not seen before almost burst into my cell and asked why I was shouting out of the window. I told him I had been speaking to a friend in the opposite wing, and he left shuffling my identity card in the rack.

Next morning after break-



○ Reprinted from
"Action" 23 July 1938

"Crowds threaten Sir O. Mosley," said the "*Daily Telegraph*." This is an actual picture of the said crowd doing the threatening.

"THE TRUTH THE HALF-TRUTH AND NOTHING LIKE THE TRUTH"

The combined circulation of the National Press today is only a fraction of 40 years ago. Yet the not-so-quality dailies have latched on to a respite-winning formula to stem the tide. Find some famous or unknown victim (almost anyone will do), unearth some naughtiness - real or imagined and Hey Presto Hold the Front Page: another scribbler's job is safe till Saturday.

We're not talking about the exposure of real criminals but the power of the press in some hands to break lives and livelihoods with little danger of breaking the laws of libel.

What about the Press Council, did someone say? No media magnate ever shook in his boots at their mild admonishments. And recourse to the courts means risking bankruptcy these days. Nobody suffered more at the hands of the press than Mosley. Twice he had the courage to take the worst offenders to the courts - and won. He even broke the broadcast boycott in the sixties by taking his case to the European Court of Human Rights and 'persuaded' the TV moguls to grant him air time. But Oswald Mosleys are few and far between, more's the pity.

fast, a superior officer entered my cell, and I was told I was to go before the Governor.

As I was marched away, many thoughts passed through my mind. Was it possible I was to be released?

Seven days solitary

This idea soon vanished when we stopped at the M.O.'s and I was declared "fit for punishment" and marched off to the Governor obviously under arrest.

On arrival I stood before him, somewhat dazed, and was surprised to hear the charge of "Disturbing the peace of the Prison". Had I spoken out of my cell window the previous evening? I said I had and was sentenced to seven days No.1.

My sentence was seven days solitary with bread and water. The whole routine

THOUGHTS THAT COME IN A

By GORDON
BECKWELL



A Column
of
Forward
Looking
personal
views on
Mosley
Thought

Surely the time has now come to re-examine Mosley's revolutionary concept that newspapers should report the news and print the truth. Ditto the broadcast media. No need for Boards of Censors or an end to real press freedom. Simply require by law that any person or institution attacked should be given equal space and equal prominence to reply. Then at last the people can decide for themselves and the Dirty Dailies will have to think twice before invading personal privacy or misrepresenting men and women who strive for greater things.

CHARM SCHOOL FOR THE KGB?

IT'S ironic that just when Camden Council is adopting the Thought Police, Russia seems to be abandoning them. Communists were ever their own worst enemies. Salt mines, show trials and state-sponsored poverty were always easier to understand than Marxist dialectics. If only Lenin had sent some of his disciples to a Charm School.

was organised on a punitive basis. Everything was cleared out of the cell except Bible. The bedboard and mattress were brought back for bedtime.

I was a little upset because of the prison rule that if a cleaner commits a breach of the rules he loses his job. I could see my plans to make life a little easier vanishing. But faced with seven days solitary, my concern for the moment was to overcome this new misfortune.

A few days later however, my prison officer furtively opened my cell door and said he had obtained permission from the Chief Prison Officer to give me my job back when I returned. It was most cheerful news.

The night before my return, the cell door opened and there stood the Chief Prison Officer and I though

So what are we to think of Glastnost and Perestroika? Just a change of tactics to achieve the same global strategy? Or does Gorbochev mean business when he says Peace and more consumer products? Nobody can accuse Mosley supporters of being naive about Communism. But the course Gorbochev has taken runs too deep to be dismissed as political hype. Russians with instalments to maintain on the family Skoda won't want to hurry off to Afghanistan again too easily.

What would Mosley have thought of it all? When in the 1960's Khrushchev repeatedly offered to withdraw Soviet troops and missiles from eastern Europe, nobody campaigned more vigorously for a positive response from the West than OM. And that would surely be his view today. Multilateral nuclear disarmament alone would of course still leave Russia with massive supremacy in conventional forces. So it would have to be: Firstly fingers off the triggers, then lower the muzzles an inch, then another inch, then Guns On the Table,

I was in for more trouble.

My anxiety was soon dispelled for he told me that Captain Luttman Johnson who had been under the same punishment - and I, were having our punishment suspended forthwith.

'Cheer Up Grundy'

Prison regulations stipulate that prisoners are due a weekly bath, so it was a surprise when my Prison Officer came to my cell when in solitary and escorted me to the bathhouse. Afterwards, putting his hand on my shoulders and shaking me said with a smile "Cheer up Grundy, a spell in Chokey makes ordinary prison life a bit easier" and giving me another shake said "You'll do for me Grundy".

He took the longest way he could back to my cell - an almost pleasant half-hour walk - which went down very well after solitary.

Boys, and finally ever so slowly withdraw the hands in carefully thought-out and fully reciprocated stages.

Those who remember Mosley's last speech to his supporters a few months before his death on the paramount importance of preventing the nuclear destruction of the Earth can have any doubt.

FOOLS' PARADISE REVIEWED

MOSLEY once said: "People usually get the government they deserve. But I find it hard to believe the British people have done anything to deserve their present rulers."

Jeffrey Hamm in his second book, 'The Evil Good Men Do', examines the motives of the geniuses who were responsible for sixty years of British decline and charitably labels them fools rather than knaves. He pursues this theme, damning his hapless subjects with their own publically stated aims followed by hard facts proving that events invariably turned out quite otherwise. One after another: Churchill, Macmillan, Rab Butler and Wilson to name a few, who saw their policies on Empire, colonial freedom, immigration or employment turn sour beyond previous imagination.

Those who joined Mosley's revolt against such evil destiny have heard the arguments before, but the author, Secretary of Action Society, presents the evidence in a freshness of style that makes agreeable reading.

Fools rather than knaves they may well have been. But one is tempted to ask - at what point does foolishness on such a scale itself become a crime?

The Evil Good Men Do by Jeffrey Hamm
Sanctuary Press £9.95 (+ £1 p&p)
Hush House, Fishponds Rd, London SW17

ARTHUR MASON'S ESCAPE

Arthur Mason's story of his second escape from detention is held over for the next issue of Comrade.

Well over six feet tall and an ex-naval time serving man, "Lofty Coombes" - as he was known to his fellow officers - helped me during solitary and got my job back for me.

I had found a friend in my Prison Officer.

● Leslie Grundy was BU Dist/Inspector Huddersfield.

LETTERS TO EDITOR

I was intrigued by the good Dr. Peel's efforts on our behalf although somewhat skeptical. Few British gov-

In Memoriam

"Tark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages"

ANDREWS, W.A.: Sth. Hammersmith Branch BU: On 2.9.1938
BARROW, David: BU: UM Speaker Oxford In August 1980
BOX, H.: Westminster St. Georges BU: A founder Cab Trade Group: On 9.8.1939
DAY, A.E.: East London BU: After war dealer in rare books, Dublin. In September 1974
de LAESSO, Maj DSO MC: Detained 188 Holloway Jail 3 years with OM and Lady Mosley and Mrs. de Laesso: A founder Norwich and King's Lynn UM: In Sept. 1948
DIXON, R.: One of first BU Nelson & Colne, Lancs. In Sept. 1938
EVANS, E.C. 'Eddie': Uplminster, formerly Sth. London BU & UM On 17.8.1986
HART, E.D.: Beckenham: Research Dept BU NHQ: Ed. 'Action' June 1940 after editor detained — for which he detained: Pioneer of UM..... In August 1950
JOHNSON, J.W.: Bethnal Green shoemaker & member BU: detained 188: On 8.9.1958
ROSMOND, Wm. G.: Bethnal Green BU and UM: In September 1952
SWIFT, Reginald 'Swift': Upton Branch BU: In September 1938
WATTS, C.F. 'Charlie': District Inspector Westminster St. G BU organiser Cab Trade Group: BU Leader Ascot Concentration Camp. On 26.8.1971
WILLIAMSON, Henry: NHQ Branch BU Author 'Tarka The Otter' etc. On 13.8.1977

Reading the article on Mason's escape brought back memories of the old days. I belonged to the Brixton Branch and used to sell Action on the streets calling out "The Only British Paper." I also made tea etc. Seeing Harry Whitbread's picture took me back to some of my happiest days.

When Brixton Branch was raided [1940] I went as usual to find the police arresting most of our members. I was let off as being 'only the tea lady', so I waited outside to warn latecomers and I hope I saved a lot of members being put away, including my husband. In those days I was very loyal to my country and its people. Poverty and hardship were prevalent and no handouts of money as now and I would have done anything to keep the peace.

Now I feel I am still loyal to my country, but people are selfish, wanting material things all at once and apart from giving money to charities mostly launched from TV, they do not help one another, and families are not together so much.

I feel less inclined to give my all to help them these days. EMM
[Our old friend did not manage to save Harry Whitbread from 18 months detention!] Ed.

ernments have been willing to admit the errors of their predecessors. Churchill is still for the Tories a hero and the genius of the century. After so many years I fear it is unlikely that the present Home Secretary will see any reason for action, after all most of those affected are dead and he has only to wait a few more years and we shall all be compensated in the arms of the Almighty!

I believe after the war that ex-188 man John Wynn tried for years to get something out of the authorities. He had got legal assistance and during the 1970s invested quite a bit in the project. I mention this because any papers or correspondence he may have left could be of value to a subsequent researcher.

Arthur Marson
[Arthur Marson, ex-188 detainee and Bull British Union writes with some cynicism on the chances of a British government acknowledging the injustice their wartime predecessors inflicted on loyal British citizens. He also raises another point of interest.

The last Comrade brings back so many memories, not all unpleasant, of the 188 saga. I have written to Dougy Hurd simply asking for an explanation of the crimes which justified my detention for 18 months in the squalor of 4 prisons (including Armley where I was forgotten for 48 hours whilst they decided whether I was a Nazi spy, criminal saboteur or a remand prisoner!

Owing to the media smother, I am often asked "Who was Mosley?" Perhaps a potted edition of "My Life" would be enlightening to some

After the war, ex RFC pilot and 188 detainee John Wynn lived at a remote farmhouse in North Wales where it was 'open house' to many old British Union comrades and was in touch with many more all over the world. He was involved in much research, had a good political library and other documents including the secret testimonies of BU political prisoners in the Isle of Man that had been buried in a damp resistant container in 1941 and retrieved by him 20 years later. John Wynn died in 1980 and in his will he left a sum of money to "the British Union political party or should this prove impracticable then to any other anti-Communist Party".

He also willed "all my political books and like documents to the same beneficiaries".

We are informed that the executors in their wisdom directed the monies to the Mosley Movement but the political books and papers do not appear to have arrived at that destination.

We have received a number of enquiries from old comrades close to John Wynn since the birth of Comrade and would be grateful for any information from our readers on the disposal of the documents. Ed.

younger intellectuals.

Another recurring question is "What would Mosley have done if Hitler had invaded?" This hypothesis was discussed in a BBC programme some years ago with Mosley, Lord Boothby and others. Mosley spoke of a resistance movement to a foreign take over and declared a right to end his life "in high Roman Fashion". In defeat.

Hoping to meet again in November. My latest delight is in attending weddings as a lucky monster chimney sweep. Kiss from the bride as as perquisit! William H. Wood
[A kiss for the bride from our own 77 yr old British Union chimney sweep BILL WOOD. Bookings accepted!] Ed.

OLD COMRADES



Many thanks for latest Comrade. It really makes one proud to have been associated with the men whose memory you, and others, write about. And sad too.

When I read about Arthur Mason's account of his escape I immediately thought of Yorkie Rawlinson. And sure enough there he was. In 1941 I used to meet Yorkie, usually at Speakers' Corner; sometimes we had a cup of coffee together. I was then in the Free French Forces and my home was just around the corner. Once he told me he was getting an identity card for someone who had escaped from detention. That must have been Mason. I kept in touch with Yorkie until the late 40s but we lost touch. I often wondered what happened to him. I remember he had a group photo taken at the Black House, Chelsea which included us both; that was in 1935 when 30-40 of us were made redundant because of financial difficulties — we each received a golden handshake of £10 and an encouraging personal letter from O.M. Arthur Mason I must have known at NHQ. If he was Francis-Hawkins office boy I was the kid who delivered the mail to the different offices.

Paddy Mullan I knew very well. He was a marvellous man, a former member of the Palestine Police. We had a number of Irish Loyalists (southern Irish). Another good man was **Paddy Driscoll**, also of "I" Division. His father was an In-Pensioner at the Royal Hospital. I last saw **Eric Hamilton Piercy** in the early 50s.

You are quite right, (British Union 'memorabilia') those items are part of history and must be preserved. **John Murray** [John Murray is one of our earlier BUF members, joining when 15! He later joined the French Foreign Legion] Ed.

OBITUARY

As we go to press we regret to report the death of **REG MACE** who was British Union A/D. Leader, Epping.

Brother-in-law of our own Ron Crisp, Reg, who was 76, served in R.A. during the war and afterwards was active in early days of Union Movement. In latter years he lived in Wiltshire.

Published for Friends of O.M.
by John Christian
101, Orwell Court,
Pownall Road, London, E8 4PP

British Union Policy.

A life to be lived —
not a theory preached

Relentless and inevitable, we march to Peoples (no) Justice!

Walton · Brixton · Slafford · York · ???

Best Wishes for Tomorrow

W H Wood

ONCE

A

SWEEP!

The 'Trade' Card Bill gave a comrade York Camp 1941. He has probably forgotten!

20

CENTURY SWEEP

LEEDS

F. O. M.

Commemoration Dinner

Saturday, 19th November, 1988

Make your Reservations

COMRADE

NEWSLETTER OF FRIENDS OF O.M.

NO.15 OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 1988

"The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow"



IN EARLY OCTOBER an article by COLIN THOMAS headlined "The black days of Mosley's thugs!" appeared in Blackburn's "Lancashire Evening Telegraph". We compliment

them in granting a fair and full reply in their October 18 issue. We reprint it reduced for interest of our readers

Evening Telegraph writer Colin Thomas described the followers of Sir Oswald Mosley as "the football hooligans of the 1930s". But former Blackshirt JOHN WARBURTON says nothing could be further from the truth...



Sir Oswald addresses his followers.

The classless brotherhood of Blackshirts

Mosley's followers were 'law-abiding to a fault'

AS one of that dwindling band of 1930s young Blackshirts still alive able to defend the honour of former comrades, and a Lancashire lad to boot, I take great exception to the allegation in your recent story by Colin Thomas of Blackshirt bands running wild in the streets, their thuggery analogizing them with today's football hooligans.

When the author appears to have leaned heavily for his sources on a number of academic revisionist works published over recent years, born out of the increasing scholarly and historical interest in the British Blackshirt "phenomenon" of the 1930s.

As far as I am aware, none of these serious publications has reached Mr Thomas's conclusions. And indeed, I cannot recollect even the most severe critics of the Blackshirt methods from political opponents ever making such an allegation. The opposite has usually been their charge — that Blackshirts were too much of a military formation, disciplined in their "violence".

The disciplined Blackshirts were the antithesis of football hooligans, and

when they fought, it was to uphold the law and their legal rights of free speech under attack from Moscow-directed Communist hooligans. They were more akin to "football hooligans" if you wish to analogise.

"We obey the law until we can change it" was Mosley's message, and his Blackshirts largely fulfilled his test. They were law-abiding to a fault. Mr Thomas's acceptance of Mosley's "We never start fights — we only finish them" appears to contradict his own "football hooligan" theory, which was possibly a piece of his journalism originating more from an attempt to write something original and "eye-catching" than a serious search for truth.

During the 1930s and early '40s, the Conservative Party and other anti-Communist politicians had surrendered their rights to free speech in the face of Red violence at their meetings. They had forsaken street meetings and their gatherings in public halls were all-ticket events to ensure what they had to say was heard.

A notorious case was that of Winston Churchill, in his own constituency of Dundee, who, in a wheelchair after an operation, tried to address a 5,000 crowd at the town's Drill Hall during an election. The meeting had to be abandoned in disorder. He was unable to put his case at open meetings throughout the election, which he lost.

With these methods, the Communists in 1932 tried to strangle Mosley's new British Union at birth but Mosley fought back. The early Blackshirts faced the challenge of the Marxist mobs, and armed only with hand and fist won the battle of the hails and streets. They brought back free speech to England, and under that honoured vestment marched the poor and the rich, youth and age, intellectual and artisan, achieving a classless brotherhood which had not come before.

Mr Thomas's story contains other errors. Mosley never joined the Liberal Party, and in 1936 there was no Blackshirt "barracks", nor did they have a Chelsea "headquarters". There is much more with which I could take issue but will content myself, in the interest of historical accuracy, to two other points of misinformation.

Imprisoned

"Extenders struggled to keep out the Blackshirts," he writes, with reference to East London's Cable Street riots of 1936. Unbiased informed opinion at the time was that the "thousands of East London workers" who fought the police and not the Blackshirts assembled half-a-mile away, were in fact imported hooligans from all over Britain.

This was proved within six months when Blackshirt candidates achieved nearly 20 per cent of the votes in local elections in the very boroughs which had supposedly "struggled to keep them out". The imported mobs had been a catalyst for Blackshirt support.

The Communist myth of "East London workers against the Blackshirts" has been historically put into perspective by the Metropolitan Police Special Branch Report MEPOG 22043 now released and on view at the Public Record Office. It pins the blame on the "unruly elements in the crowd —

largely communist inspired," and reject the myth as "far from reflecting accurately the state of affairs".

It goes on to state that the Blackshirts had "been steadily gaining ground in many parts of East London and has strong support in such districts as Stepney, Shoreditch, Bethnal Green, Hackney and Bow". Mr Thomas should continue his research.

In his final fling Mr Thomas correctly asserts that during the War Mosley and "his young followers" were imprisoned. True, but he could have added "without charge or trial" in a land in which it had previously been accepted that "no free man shall be taken or imprisoned — unless by lawful judgement of his peers — the right born out of Magna Carta of 1215".

He could also have pointed out that one third of the nearly 800 detained were heavily decorated ex-servicemen of the First War who remained incarcerated for years on the sole decision of Labour Home Secretary Herbert Morrison, who had spent that war working in an apple orchard as a conscientious objector.

And with more diligent research into Mosley's "young followers" he would have discovered that they were not all imprisoned, the first official casualty of the war being 20-year-old Kenneth George Day, a Mosley Blackshirt and Aircraftman 2nd Class in the RAF's 9 Squadron who was killed in action in Wellington LA775 while bombing German battleships Scharnhorst and Gneisenau on the Kiel Canal on the second day of the war.

Young Day and his Blackshirt comrade in the same aircraft, 22-year-old George Brooking, also in the First Casualty List, were ground crewmen who had volunteered as air gunners. Day's body was later found near the Elbe Lighthouse and buried with full military honours in Cuxhaven Cemetery.

Brooking was never found but his name is inscribed on the Runnymede Air Force Memorial where 20,547 World War Two airmen without known names are remembered. They remain a permanent historical embarrassment for that British establishment who seek to perpetuate the lies of the past.

By the end of the war the bodies of many of Mosley's young men lay dead over three continents. They died in a war they had tried to prevent and which they believed, and many now say correctly, not to be in Britain's interests. But they peacefully sleep, their duty done. Theirs, a greater sacrifice.

Football hooligans Mr Thomas?

of 14/15 November, just three weeks after his baptism of fire.

On that night, with one other aircraft, he was chosen for a special mission — his 21st operation, 10th as skipper.

OUR
BLACKSHIRT
DEAD

Ronnie Bucknell

A MEMBER of British Union's active Croydon Branch under the popular 'Cape' — District Leader L.P. Capleton, RONNIE BUCKNELL joined the RAF's Voluntary Reserve and after the outbreak of war completed his operational training with 106 Squadron. Posted to the 83 Hampden Squadron at Scampton, Lincs, in August 1940 he was with three days flying over Europe on his first operation.

Ten days later, after bombing a Luftwaffe aerodrome at Bremen, his Hampden crashed landing at MARGHAM without injuries.

Two weeks later, shortly after the RAF and Squadron's Sergeant Hannah — one of his contemporaries — won the V.C., he and his crewmates had to parachute out on

return to base from a bombing mission as the hydraulic system had been damaged by Flak and the wing bombs were still on.

Within three weeks he was piloting a Hampden on daily operations until the night

of 14/15 November, just three weeks after his baptism of fire.

On that night, with one other aircraft, he was chosen for a special mission — his 21st operation, 10th as skipper.

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

"What though we ourselves be
slitten,
this, our faith can never die!"

BANGS Lt. Jack P.L.:
R. Sussex Regt (attached Gloucesters): Age 20: Killed in action 3 Nov. 1944: Buried Geel War Cemetery, Belgium: One of three Brighton Branch British Union members known to have been killed in action in World War II.

BUCKNELL Sgt. Ronald:
RAF VR: 83 Sqdn: killed in action in Berlin operation 15 November 1940 Age 24: Remembered on Runnymede Air Force Memorial. Member Croydon Branch British Union:

GILLIES W/O John H.:
RAF VR: 511 Sqdn: Killed in ops. 30 November 1943. Age 26: Remembered on Runnymede Air Force Memorial: British Union speaker and one of three pupils of Leyton County High School who joined Leytonstone Branch known to have been killed in Services in World War II.

LIMB Pte W.F.:
RME: Killed in action 27 October 1944, France: Remembered on Services Memorial, Norwood Cemetery, Lambeth: Member of Norwood Branch British Union.

WHITE Lt. Albert E.:
RNVR: Killed in action HM Trawler "Northern Rover" 5 November 1939: Leicester Branch Br. Union: Remembered on Lowestoft War Memorial.

Loaded with mines, Sgt. Pilot and ex-Blackshirt Ronnie Bucknell was detailed to attack Berlin.

It was the eve of the birthday of his leader who had also flown over the German lines as an 18 year old in the RFC in 1914, and that night was languishing in Brixton Jail. And at Ascot Concentration Camp several hundred of his Blackshirt comrades were preparing a frugal birthday party in his honour.

If they had known — there would also have been a tin can special toast in tea to Ronnie Bucknell.

BILL LIMB → 6

WEAR A RED ROSE
ON MOSLEY DAY

The Commemoration Dinner
Saturday 19th November 1988

WEAR A RED ROSE
ON MOSLEY DAY

"We persevered, making slow progress, realising we were under the road by the noise of lorries above our heads, and keeping 'our fingers crossed' that one would not fall through on top of the digger"

After a month in the cells without exercise I was released and pleased to find that I was placed in a house with several comrades I was with at Huyton Camp, Whitbread, Danny, Gill, Dick Wynne and Ambrose. Opposite, as if to warn me, were the cells of the Army guard hut.

I settled in quite well for a few weeks but unlike other detainees I was not allowed out to work so life became a little dull.

So I decided to have another escape.

Others thought of escape including former Labour M.P. John Beckett who had started the short-lived National Socialist League with William Joyce after Mosley had expelled him in 1937. With Joe Walker, an IRA man, he aimed to get away in one of the Irish fishing boats that came into Peel. He claimed his wife was a contact and that plans were going well but for some reason he called it off.

Our house held an escape meeting and decided that a tunnel should be dug from it running under the pavement road and coming up at the side of the detention cells. Joe Walker, yearning to get back home in Co. Clare, was put in charge of planning. We did not agree with his IRA activities but I found him a fine individual. His real name was Fleming and all his family were in the IRA.

First requirement was a saw which we obtained from a camp maintenance man. After lights out one night we cut a trapdoor in the front room floor, carefully replacing the loose piece of floor covering.

The escape had commenced.

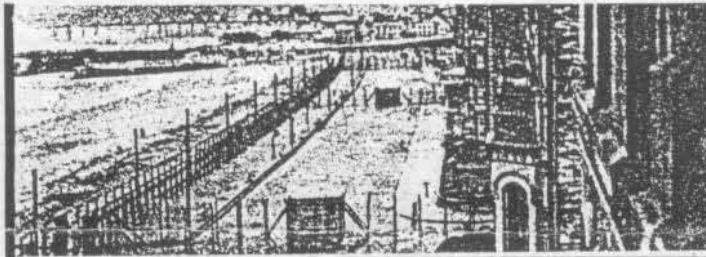
The camp guards came round

THE TUNNEL

**"Perhaps it had never been used.....
the first tunnel to freedom to be built
so painstakingly in a camp in Britain"**

WE left ARTHUR MASON, one-time British Union District Leader Limehouse, serving a month's hard labour in Isle of Man Jail after recapture in London following escape from Huyton Concent-

He continues his story - of his second escape - from Peveril Concentration Camp, Isle of Man, told for the first time.



No charge, no trial - just a Concentration Camp if you believed that Britons should fight for Britain only in 1940. This one Mooragh Camp, Isle of Man

for inspection at odd hours so we appointed 'look-outs' around the houses to prevent being caught unawares. The downward dig started with a piece of flat iron, placing the dirt in two sacks which were then taken to a small garden at the rear of the house. We knew this would raise the height of the garden but believed it would not be noticed. Only one man could work at a time and after a few weeks we were able to relax a little as the trapdoor could be shut with 'Lino' and a chair

placed on top. Several times the guards made sudden inspections and we had some narrow escapes. The digger had to get out quick, but if that was impossible we hurriedly got someone from another house to answer his name.

The first ten feet

It was about 10 feet down to the level of the start of the tunnel and we had to lie on our stomach or back, dig enough to place in a sack, and back out dragging it behind. On reaching the entrance, a light tap on the door would prompt the person sitting on the chair on top. He would check around, open the trapdoor, take the sack and replace the door. At first we only had a candle or torch but later obtained an extension wire and fixed up a permanent light. Progress was slow but the garden was noticeably higher. It caused a few comments from those not involved but fortunately it was not noticed by the guards.

On reaching about 7 feet outwards it became obvious that it was unsafe unless we could shore it up, but to get timber was a problem.

We decided to investigate



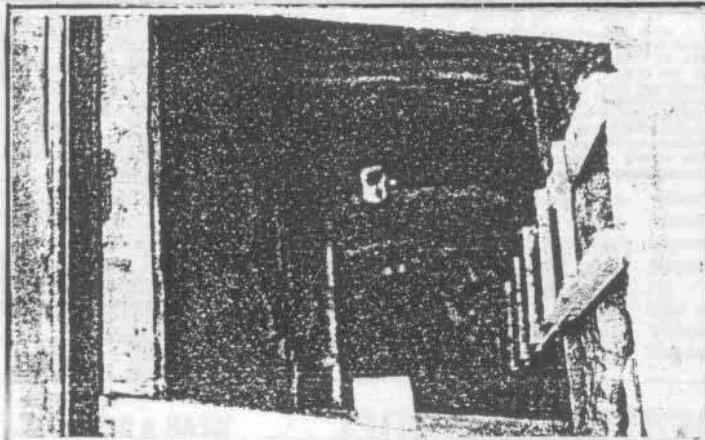
the locked room in our house. Each house had one such room for the storage of their furniture when the Government took over the property. The lock provided little problem and there was a sight to delight our hearts - wooden bedsteads!

With silent apologies to the owners - the politicians who had put us here without a charge made against us - we broke off the 2 x 2 inch side pieces, cut them in 3 and 2 foot lengths, and placed them every 3 feet in the tunnel in case of a cave-in.

Digging at night now became impossible as with 'lights out' so did our extension light. Candles burnt up the air making it impossible to breathe, so digging had to be kept to daylight when there was more risk of getting caught. We persevered making slow progress, realising we were under the road by the noise of lorries above our heads, and keeping 'our fingers crossed' that one would not fall through on top of the digger.

Sewer Gassed

One day I became overcome with dizziness and had to get out. It was found I had been digging on top of the street sewer. It was three days of sickness and headaches before I could return to the tunnel, the sewer having been sealed off with more soil and the trapdoor left open every night. On some occasions we had to clear the air by fanning air down with a blanket. No wonder some of our visiting comrades thought the air in our house was not to their liking!



Mason's tunnel showing the electric light cable and shored-up walls

4 ← The Tunnel



Bang on Target

It was a day in August 1941 that we reached the other side of the road. By guess work we knew we would have to go slightly upwards as the guard house was on a higher level than our side of the road. We dug for another two weeks, guessed we were about there, and Joe Walker was chosen to go down the tunnel and stick a stair rod - also stolen from the locked room - upwards.

With bated breath we watched from the house, and Hey presto, there it was, right where we wanted it, between building and fence.

But not for long. A signal from our man at the trapdoor, a bang on the door, and Walker immediately withdrew the rod, crawling out of the tunnel shortly after, beaming all over as his thoughts no doubt dwelt on his early return to Co.Clare!

We rested for a week before deciding the time right for the break. Walker, Barry - another IRA man - and myself going from our house and Chris Schirmer, an engineer, and two others whose names I forget were invited from other houses. Walker was chosen to cut the sod of soil that was to lead to freedom. A tray had been made to hold the sod, and after he had done his job and had a quick look

out, he was to replace the tray which was to be held in position by prepared wooden stakes.

It was decided we should rest, get extra sleep, and prepare ourselves to break on September 22nd, and on that night, after roll call and a meal, we gathered in our house at 11pm, armed with a Scout compass and about £20 sewn in the lining of my jacket, we said our farewells, pulled up the trapdoor, and entered the tunnel.

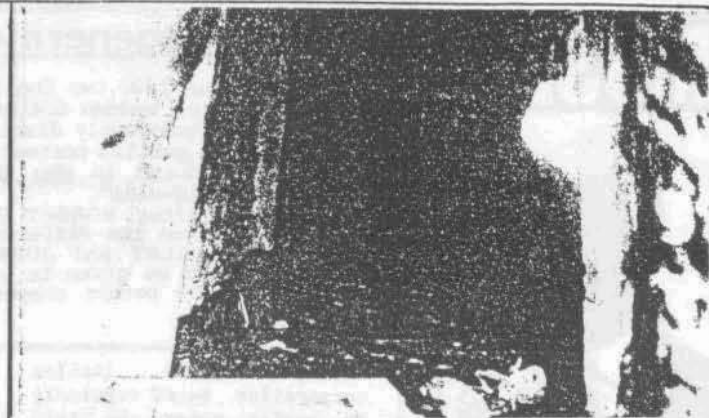
Breakthrough

I cannot remember who was the first to lift the sod and put their head into the night air with its beckoning smell of freedom and pass back the all clear, but all the six of us got out easily. The sod was put back by those left behind, as others in due course had plans to escape.

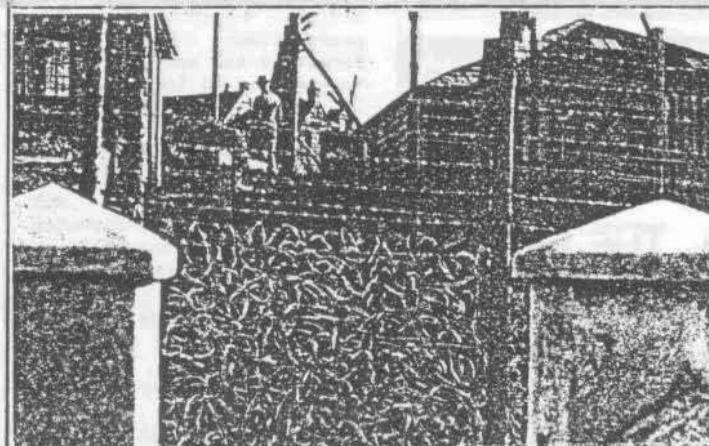
Our destination was Glen Moya, a little cove we had noticed on walks under military escort, and where our detainees intelligence service had told us of an available boat.

We arrived without incident, found the boat locked, and had to force an entrance. Although we worked silently, a dog started to bark and we heard approaching voices so we all moved away - Walker, Barry and I to the cliff face and the other three along the rocks. The dog was running along the beach towards us, stopping about six feet away from us pressed against the cliff and we heard the shout of "find them". After what seemed ages, with "I'm sure I heard someone", they moved off. They were two coastguards and they returned to their hut on the top of the cliff.

There was no trace of the others so after waiting for some time we made for Castletown on the other side of the Island, keeping to the road with which we were familiar from the map we carried and which had been well studied the previous week. We dived for cover several times from car headlights, and with the approaching daylight started to look for a place



The ten-foot drop into the tunnel past the cut ground floor joists



A guardhouse and barbed wire did not a prison make for Arthur Mason in 1941. He 'moled' his way out

to lay up for the day.

Hide-out

An old building across the road from a farmhouse seemed a likely place and we made for it. We found it ideal - a storehouse with straw upstairs where we made ourselves comfortable - one watching by an open window while the other two slept for a few hours. The farmer crossed the road, which became busy with army and civilian vehicles, several times but fortunately did not enter the building.

Later we sent Barry, who being short and with a weathered face looked like a Manxman, into Castletown to find food. He returned some hours later with just two bottles of beer and no food, and we were not amused.

Came dusk and off we were

again but this time over the fields, finally entering the blacked-out town where Barry obtained more beer, making for the beach where we sat tight until most people had gone home.

We then approached the quay where there were a number of boats but found them all immobilised by missing spark plugs. Hearing voices from a Home Guard 'black-out' patrol we went over the wall, Barry dropping his last bottle of beer on the rocks which sounded like thunder. So thought the patrol for they searched around with a torch for some time while we kept our heads down.

After their departure we agreed that if we were to get away a plug or oars had to be found. Prowling around we found a boatshed, its lock providing a minor problem which we solved in a matter of minutes, but only finding inside a couple of oars.

So it was to be a rowing trip to the Emerald Isle!

The patrol was now some distance away so it was back to the boats where we liked the look of "Sunbeam" so down we climbed, cut the holding ropes and began the long row.

● "The night was foggy and the sirens were working overtime. Neither of us had much experience of rowing...."

Arthur Mason continues his story in the next full issue of COMRADE.



British political prisoners. Mosley's men returning from outside work to Peveril Concentration Camp

MOSLEY



The Man

6. By Robert Stanton

THE EPIC GENERATION

Oswald Mosley was still a teenager when he flew in air combat over the Western Front, through which he returned with a dedication to peace though not pacifism. Authoritatively tipped as a future premier, he made his name in Parliament by eloquently campaigning against atrocities in Ireland and for financial reforms in England. In 1930 he resigned from the Labour Government owing to its inaction over mass-unemployment. Spurned by Westminster and Fleet Street, as Richard Crossman candidly admitted, "simply and solely because he was right". Sir Oswald argued that without major changes the country was doomed sooner or later to industrial collapse.

Mosley constructed a recovery programme which belonged to our British "socialist imperialist" tradition but found obvious continental parallels at that turbulent period. He faced the antagonism of certain interests and the party machines by contending that the lasting solution to the fundamental export problems recurrently disturbing these islands was to change from the trading system of international finance to a new one which developed the Empire as a self contained unit. He also argued that the best answer to internal conflicts was an improved version of the

widely admired Italian corporatism, based regularly on public votes. He told Beaverbrook that he had decided to lead a new national movement from the ground-floor partly to forestall the emergence of a "worse kind of lunatic."

Mosley deliberately formed a political "Salvation Army" which would run away neither from efficient government nor from Moscow-directed intimidation in the economic Doomsday which many experts then considered imminent. Organising stewards in black shirts proved no deterrent to recruitment, which accelerated so rapidly that the outnumbered Communist Party clearly felt a full-scale and well-armed counter-offensive was overdue; Hence the Olympia legend. Mosley was the target not the initiator of violence, but was denounced as an "enemy of free speech" while being increasingly denied the use of town halls throughout the country - although in 1939 at Earl's Court 15,000 people quietly heard him demand both the complete re-armament of Britain and peaceful co-existence with Germany.

Banned by BBC and mass-media

Mosley lost the press backing from Lord Rothermere through advertising blackmail and his own party papers encountered retail boycotts. The BBC totally banned him for three decades. As his vociferous detractors had readier access to mass-media and meeting places, it was not difficult to prejudice the electorate against him. Portrayed initially as the outstanding orator who was a bit too clever and unfashionably ultra-patriotic for our easy-going party-political bumbledom, he was subsequently smeared as the crazy traitor, who somehow expected to become a despot for life, by such criminal antics as beating up instead of converting his audiences, launching pogroms, pitching his followers against the forces of the crown, and finally aiding a foreign invasion so he could be installed as Gauleiter. This defamatory

The Degenerate Hype vs. The Epic Generation

IN December 1980, two Englishmen, originally hailed as great rebels, were cremated abroad after sudden deaths. The elder statesman, who passed away peacefully near Paris, was venomously dismissed as "forgotten, feared and hated" by newspapers who refused to publish corrections of their most blatant falsehoods. The young songwriter, murdered in New York, was honoured by heads of state, and "millions of people world-wide".

Shortly after, ROBERT STANTON, in the Christian anti-communist magazine OPEN EYE, analysed the differences between the media-manufactured "public images" of OSWALD MOSLEY and JOHN LENNON as an example of how the media-men decide what should be given to us and what shall be withheld. How they shape the public mind as the potter shapes the clay. The opinion-makers and myth-makers of the age.

drivel, completely contradicted by his policies and character, reappeared with unprecedented vindictiveness while his bereaved family were still in mourning.

Mosley had long urged modernisation of the air and coastal defences of his native land, and he pledged himself and his supporters to be available to government by resisting any enemy invasion in complete loyalty to their King.

US pressure jailed Mosley?

The "security risks" were those politicians who provoked a Nazi attack and possible invasion by declaring war over the Danzig issue with weapons insufficient not only to assist Poland but even to protect Britain itself. In 1940 Mosley, along with his wife and many decorated ex-servicemen, was imprisoned without charge or trial. The purpose was to suppress his entirely legal campaign for a public referendum on the war. Neville Chamberlain reportedly said afterwards - "America and the world Jew had forced England into war." The archives may one day disclose that the decisive pressure to silence the Mosleyite appeal for a negotiated agreement which would keep "Britain safe and Empire intact" came from a US-located lobby rather than the Labour Party.

Socialist politician Herbert Morrison nevertheless tried to prevent a postwar comeback by advising editors to ignore Mosley altogether. Generally the press settled for the tactic of disregarding anything he said or wrote, while reporting any fracas at his public appearances, soon to include huge and orderly meetings in Trafalgar Square, as if he - and not his opponents - were responsible. Mosley advocated the "extension of patriotism" to create a new self-supporting economy that united the former Dominions (including Southern Africa) with Western Europe (including the United Kingdom.) Long before Powell appeared "foaming with blood", Mosley warned against the compulsory

transformation of our overcrowded nation into a "multi-cultural" society and led the exposure of Racism with a "votes not violence" election propaganda in Notting Hill. He put forward original schemes inter alia to end starvation from Jamaica to Bangladesh and to induce the Soviets to accept gradual multilateral disarmament through inspection. The media excluded them.

The Mosley Legacy

Left for posterity however are his well-written books and articles and newer generations can judge for themselves whether his ideas could still help Britain. How many Christians are aware, for example, that he vigorously defended the existence of God and the immortality of the soul against dialectical materialism in "The Alternative", and attempted an evolutionary explanation of the 'problem of evil' in "Wagner and Shaw" and other remarkable works?

Most controversies surrounding Britain's 'Caesar', including his alleged exploitation of racial prejudice, were factually discussed in the revised "Oswald Mosley" Macmillan, 19810 by Professor Robert Skidelsky, whose reputed role as Mark Anthony is certainly more honourable than the Brutus posture of Professor AJP Taylor. Mosley himself answered 'miscellaneous abuse' and optimistically explained his modern proposals on economics, politics and defence in "Mosley - Right or Wrong".

Future scholarship, already showing some signs of escape from its morian incubus, may rescue Mosley from the 'memory-hole' and favourably re-assess him, perhaps as the last of a line of ill-fated personalities from the days when this was a country the world respected - like Raleigh, Strafford, Bolingbroke, Fox, Warren Hastings and Randolph Churchill.

● The media-manufactured "public image" of JOHN LENNON - 'The Degenerate Hype' will appear in a future issue.

Dreams that don't Grow Old

British Union and Union Movement were the last great attempts of British Manhood and Womanhood to halt Britain's Stuka-style nosedive to decadence.

Alone of all political parties, they stood for a Union of the British that was total. Their policies united farm and factory, young and old, wage-earner and pensioner, employed and unemployed. They brought together the interests of Capital and Labour, producer and consumer, all classes and all parts of the country. There would be a place for all the British in the new world of the Modern Movement and none would dominate the other.

THOUGHTS THAT COME IN A

By GORDON
BECKWELL



A Column
of
Forward
Looking
personal
views on
Mosley
Thought

Old photos show be-medalled ex-Officers from the Shires marching beside young industrial workers in comfortable comradeship.

How perfect was the name British Union, though it arrived by chance. Originally the Union of all British Fascists, only later in conveniently shortened form did it come to mean the Union of all the British.

Today, when the Labour Party seeks to advance one section of society by dragging down another, or when Tory budgets reward

the already wealthy at the expense of even greater hardship for those struggling on shoestring incomes, we remember why the half-a-million* of the British who joined Mosley have nothing to be ashamed of.

Their example is the Blackshirt legacy to future generations who, as a result, may one day walk "in a world of infinite beauty that we will never know."

* Home Office File No. 203/13
Public Record Office

.....

And Margaret made Man in her Own Image

In a Blind World the One-Eyed Man is King. That surely is the reason for Mrs. Thatcher's 'success': the best of a mediocre bunch with limited vision. She represents a particular thread amongst the British: tough-minded and strong on principles maybe but reluctant to take truly great steps.

Committed to Europe, she retreats from real Union. Mindful of the nightmares of multiracism, she does nothing. But perhaps her greatest limitation is the belief that everyone else is made much like her. Or if not, a few new laws will make sure they soon are.

But not everybody can be self-employed or wants to chase round the country on bicycles for dubious new jobs in distant towns.

Was Mosley right when he said, the evening before he died, that Mrs. Thatcher might be popular because the British like being nagged by their wives?

And some take a little longer

By ARTHUR MARSON

Intrigued by GORDON BECKWELL's column review of Jeffrey Hann's "The Evil Good Men Do", our contributor argues an alternative analysis of the political and economic disasters of the last hundred years.

If you start from a false presumption it is clear you will almost certainly come to a false conclusion.

I cannot agree that the established British politicians of this century were necessarily either knaves or fools. Of course, if you regard the result of their efforts a crime, then they were criminals, but if so, I would say unwittingly. Politics does not take place in a vacuum and most politicians are concerned only with day to day events and take a short term view. Only very few 'Statesmen' with an eye for long term trends are born in any country in one generation.

The problems of empire

The origin of the British Empire was a combination of fortunate circumstances and the will to grab the initiative in favourable weather and it maintained its position for almost a century.

The misfortunes of this century were more a result of basic British weakness than any evil intent.

With a population of only 40 odd million she could not

hope to control ten times that number in the long term.

In the first quarter of the 19th century she was in a not repeatable favourable position. She had won a series of wars with France and got rid of her most dangerous rival. Possessing an industrial capacity far in advance of any other at that time, she had a commercial trading class who knew how to make an honest quid and the biggest and most effective Navy. With these advantages and a bit of sense in government she couldn't help but be a success.

Most historians place the peak of British power in the 1880s. Certainly by the end of the century the tide had turned. Other powers had caught up and surpassed us industrially and technically and were rivals for world power.

A further misfortune was that Britain had developed in the prosperous times two ideologies that were totally incompatible, namely Imperialism and Liberal-Capitalist Democracy. This made it more

difficult to arrive at a commonly acceptable solution to the problems of empire, which were in fact problems of power, and which still remain, empire or not.

Problems of power

Appraising the situation in the 1890s, the Foreign Office concluded that Britain had two dangerous rivals, Germany and America, which was probably correct. They then returned to the old theory of balance of power which had served well in the past, and decided the solution was to do a deal with one lot and beat up the other. Unfortunately they chose the wrong one.

From a position of power, it would have been advisable to team up with the weaker rival and jointly dish the stronger and potentially more dangerous one, meaning a British German alliance against America. This could almost certainly have stopped America's rise to world-power status and preserved the British Empire for a further 50 years.

The objections to such a policy is that it would have



"Churchill I would regard as 'criminal'"

been a hard sell to the electorate. Many British families had personal connections with the USA, and to the man in the street Germany was much nearer, had a powerful fleet, a sabre-rattling Kaiser, and appeared to be the greater danger. The liberal element in England favoured America because they saw their ideas carried there to its logical conclusion. There were also many contributory factors. The British Royal Family had no particular love for their German cousins, and the head of the Foreign Office, Sir Eyre Crowe was half-German, had been to school in Dusseldorf, and became pathologically anti-German. A

In Memoriam

"Hark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages,
Britain listens and rejoices,
Gazing on Tradition's pages...."

BAILEY Dennis: B. Union Cadet Clapham Br: adopted son of BU Inspector W.H. Symes: In October 1938 serving with 31 AA Coy RE[TA] during Munich crisis.

BURN Andy: RFC 1914-8: Br. Un. 1933-40: 18B detainee 1940: Un. M 1948-76: On 31.10.1976

CLARK Ernest: BU County Prop Officer County Durham: In October 1937.

DOOS C.W. Bill:

S. Croydon Branch
BU and Sydenham
UM: At Sidmouth
Devon 12 Oct 1984



FELDMICK L.L.: W. Lewisham Br
British Union: Ex RAF:
Age 27: In October 1938

GOWING Horace: Derby Br. BU:
Detained 18B: Founder war-time Sons of St. George:
In November 1949: Age 30:
From TB contracted in
Walton Jail and Ascot
Concentration Camp.

HILDERSLEY Albert: In: October
1948: St. Marylebone UM:

HORSFIELD Frank: Blackburn
BU: By motorcycle on way to
meeting in Market Square
on 11 October 1937:

LING Bob: Ealing BU: 18B de-
tained: S London UM:
On 9 October 1975 after
long illness bravely borne:

LYNN Jack: Harrow Br. and
former District Leader
BU Newcastle-on-Tyne:
In October 1938:

O'DONEGAN Rose: wife of old
comrade PAT: On 27 Nov. 1986

PACKER Charlie: Mayor of
Bexley, Kent 1978/9: Union
Union Movement accountant
1948/85: On 27 November 1985

PARSONS H.J.: Aldershot BU:
18B Detainee: Union Movement
On 19 November 1976

RING Margaret: mother of BU
Ilford A/D/Leader and UMS
Bobby Ring: On 5 Nov 1938

THOMSON Alexander Raven:

Director of
Policy Br. Un:
Editor of
Action 1939-
40: Ed. Union
1948-55:

Writer, phil-
osopher, sold-
ier, politician:
A loyal comrade and
great British and European
patriot: On 30 October 1955
Age 55.

Still in spirit with us.

"Patriots: your cry is heeded!
Heroes: death was not in vain!
We to your place have succeeded,
Britain shall be great again!"



COMRADE 14

IT WOULD APPEAR that the postal
strike in September 'lost' a num-
ber of those despatched. Please send a
stamped envelope for a further copy
stamped envelope for a further copy
if you did not receive it.

1< Our Blackshirt Dead

IT WAS with a heavy heart
that Army reservist **BILL
LIMB** caught the train on
his call up on the outbreak
of the war he had striven
to prevent.

"You are doing your duty
Bill" said his District
Treasurer - who was himself
later to volunteer for the
RAF and win the DFC - who
was seeing him off.

We do not know how he died
but that it was after the D
Day landings.

Through "Comrade", his
duty now seen to be done.

● The deaths of **RONNIE BUCKNELL** and
BILL LIMB have only recently been
discovered in our research for
BRITISH UNION'S ROLL OF HONOUR.

From HILDA BELLAMY

IT WAS GOOD to have your support
at Dick's Memorial Service....and
thank you for "Comrade". It made me
very proud to read those splendid
tributes to Dick. He would have
been so grateful to know that his
comrades held him in such esteem -
he was always too humble & modest
of his own worth.

5< The MARSON Analysis

modern psychiatrist might
diagnose that he didn't like
his teachers or that his
German mother didn't love
him. Maybe these minor
factors played a part.

The result was the build-up
of a 'war-party' in England
and the First World War. The
Germans were not innocent,
the Kaiser being the best
propagandist the British
had. When he made a speech
there was more consternation
in Berlin than in London.

The 'peace' following the
war was actually the end of
British imperial power even
if not immediately apparent.
The losses in money and man-
power were greater than
could quickly be made good,
and Britain was totally in
debt to America.

All British governments of
the 1920s and 30s were inept
crisis managers. They only
tried to keep things run-
ning, not having sufficient
power or manoeuvrability to
influence the course of
events. For prestige reasons
they kept trying but all the
interminable 'disarmament'
and 'economic' conferences
of those years were simply
bad theater. Though debat-
able, British Union policies
if adopted might have 'saved
the Empire'. Had Mosley got
to power with the policy of
a closed 'Commonwealth Block'
he would have had to find a
reliable ally to prop us
up against Japan, who could

* FILM SHOW *

OVER 60 old comrades and
associates of **FRIENDS OF
O.M.** at a private invit-
ation **FILM SHOW** given by
a former member of Union
Movement's Drum Corps at
his East London home in
September. Memories and
spirits were stirred by
the clips of O.M. and UM
and BU marches and other
activities.

Held in a modern marquee
erected in the garden, and
with appropriate refresh-
ment, it proved to be a
very suitable venue for
the evening's entertain-
ment.

COMRADE understands that
this method of holding a
film show is one that
the organisers can repro-
duce in other areas. All
that is required is a
back garden or similar
small plot of ground.

● A number of old comrades from
Friends of O.M. joined the
family at Dick's Memorial Service
at a small Hertfordshire village
church.

only expand at British ex-
pense, and America who were
always against the closed
door policy in colonial
territories. If that had
happened, Germany sooner or
later would have been forced
to choose between double-
crossing the Japanese or the
British.

To speculate on 'what
might have BEEN' is not very
helpful but I merely wish to
point out that one can only
judge politicians of the
post-war era against this
background. The politicians
didn't deliberately make the
circumstances.

Churchill I would regard
as 'criminal'. If David
Irving's contention in his
latest book on Churchill is
true, the bold Winston was
in effect "America's man in
Britain" - which means he
actually committed the crime
of which he accused Mosley
and his followers so unjust-
ly - namely disloyalty to
our country. One could almost
say treason.

Not Good or Evil, Stupid or Criminal - just mediocre

His successors were mostly
men of mediocre talent but
neither stupid or criminal.
Many internal questions
could have been better
handled. A different tax-
ation policy could have
stimulated investment in
Britain. Many other European
countries - France, Holland,
Italy - did better economi-
cally.

WEAR A RED ROSE * WEAR A RED ROSE
ON MOSLEY DAY * ON MOSLEY DAY

OLD COMRADES



GREETINGS

To **LESLIE MILES** of Enfield on
his 88th Birthday, 12th October.
Possibly our oldest surviving
old comrade he was Voluntary
Accounts Inspector at British
Union's Enfield Branch.

To **ARTHUR and MRS. SWAN** Glouc-
estershire on their **GOLDEN
WEDDING** in October. One-time
District Treasurer of British
Union's Lowestoft Branch,
Arthur was Camp Leader at Ascot
Concentration Camp in 1940.

We Apologise

To **HARRY WHITEHEAD** for our 18
months 18B detention error in
COMRADE 14. We should have known
that for such a danger man
3 years 5 months was about
right. Which it was!

But Britain's decline was
not alone the fault of suc-
cessive governments. Such
things as bad industrial re-
lations, poor design of
products, failure to adopt to
changing market conditions
were not direct government
failures.

I think the British people
subconsciously realized what
they never consciously ad-
mitted. That they had lost a
war in which they had be-
lieved had been won, but
also their place in the
world as a "great power" and
after generations of being
told they were 'top dogs' it
was probably expecting too
much of human nature to ex-
pect them to readjust to a
new situation in a very
short space of time.

This applies just as much
to professional politicians
as to people in general.
After all, we are all child-
ren of our time and even
politicians are more or less
human.

THANKS

FOR the anonymous £10 Donation
and good wishes from London
University student.

WANTED

FOR CASH: Items relating to the
political and personal life of
Sir Oswald Mosley. Also mater-
ial on the New Party, British
Union of Fascists, and Union
Movement. Box C101

ILFORD BRANCH BRITISH UNION:
Ilford student researching
this subject for his dissert-
ation urgently requires in-
formation on activities etc
1932-1940. Box M104

COMRADE



SPECIAL EDITION

Friends of O.M. Annual Report and Review

Newsletter of FRIENDS OF O.M.

No.16 January 1989

*"Hope and faith that the young will pick up the banners when
our generation can no longer hold them"*

THE ETERNAL BATTLE

OBITUARY

WITH SORROW we report the death from a heart attack whilst boarding an aircraft in October, of early British Union member **PETER PEEL Ph.D** of Reseda, California.

Joining the BUF in 1933 when only 13 he was later active in Windsor Branch before joining the RAF in 1939. Posted overseas he was later in active combat against the Japanese until demobbed as Flight Lieutenant in 1946. Some 30 years ago he emigrated to the United States where he became an actor before graduating in philosophy.

Within weeks of the birth of **Comrade**, Dr. Peel made contact with FOM and later contributed to our **Mosley The Man** series, and last July we printed the appeal he had made to Home Secretary Douglas Hurd for justice for Britain's wartime political prisoners.

During a visit to England in the Spring he told me of his intention to return to England and spend the rest of his days fighting for her survival.

'Peter was an absolutely fearless man - a "true Brit". ...He had great satisfaction in his association with the great Mosley and his Movement in the early years' writes his widow Judith from California.

I found him so, and in concluding this tribute I find it appropriate to publish words from his first letter to **Comrade** two years ago as his message to posterity. JC



By the late **PETER PEEL Ph.D**

I know that Oswald Mosley believed in British patriotism as did I - and so many others during the war - although I knew even then that the war was unjustified and could only be disastrous even in the 'victory' which I always thought was inevitable.

I tried to do the best job I could but without anything but a sense of great European tragedy. It was minor blessing that most of my active combat was against the Japanese....If one thinks of treason, what greater treason was there than to hand over Europe, in which I include Britain, to the Americans and the Russians....

I always cherish the thought that the native English epic is Beowulf, and although his great battle against the monster Grendel was fought when he was a young man it was as an old king, 80 years old, that he fought his last great battle and killed the dragon though himself dying of his wounds. Certainly it is a myth but it is an inspiration and a parable to which we can all commit our lives.

Best wishes to all old comrades and with hope and faith that the young will pick up the banners when our generation can no longer hold them.

The battle we are in is an eternal one and we have no greater honour than to be good soldiers in it to the end of our lives.

★ LATE NEWS

JOHN CHARNLEY, one of our most dear and dedicated old comrades has at 74, 78, he passed away on December 28th.

Though anticipated - he had been confined to his chair for for some time - the news comes as a profound shock. He was such a fighter.

One of four Lancashire Black-shirt brothers, he was later British Union District Leader Hull East and its Prospective Parliamentary Candidate as well as County Propaganda Officer for Yorkshire.

After the war, during which he was imprisoned under the infamous 188 Regulations, he was involved with OM in the planning of birth of Union Movement. A Master Baker, he was in later years to become well known for his activities in the National Council of Trade.

Our thoughts go out to Edith with whom he celebrated his Golden Wedding just a few weeks ago, and as he wrote of OM on his death.

I miss him more than I can say. J.C.

[Troubled Times > Page 4]



1989 WE SOLDIER ON

The Council of Friends of O.M. and the Editor of **Comrade** wish all our readers a Happy New Year though saddened by the space we have had to devote to the passing of old comrades in our review of the year.

For this reason we have doubled the size of last year's two page Special Edition as we believe that as important as it is to record our activities, the story of a little of the life long loyalty and purpose of those who have died, with in some cases their own posthumous words, goes even further to the fulfilment of that which we who are left have dedi-

→ 4

A GOOD START

By **Ian Simpson**

Thanks to the catalytic nature of **COMRADE**, a great deal of research about the life and times of Sir Oswald Mosley is now in operation.

The groundwork for this revisionist interest was laid in 1968 with the publication of his **MY LIFE** and the subsequent **OSWALD MOSLEY** by Robert Skidelsky in 1975. Many questions of historical importance however still remain.

Who were the members of the elite "I" Squad?

What BUF branches marched to the fourth Albert Hall meeting?

Why did the Isle of Man ferry fail to disembark its cargo of 188 detainees for 12 hours after docking?

These could be dismissed as trivia but the modern historian sees such questions as vital to a fuller understanding of Mosley and the infrastructure of his Movement.

Where are they going to get the answers? Beyond the Newspaper Library in London, the Public Record Office at Kew, contemporary published works offer only a partial solution.

The answer lies with tape recording the memories of supporters who lived through those exciting times. They are not intended for current publication. A life time embargo is strictly enforced so old comrades can feel unrestrained in talking frankly about their experiences. In the long term a superb archive of sound will be available to help counter the often deliberate misrepresentation built up over many years.

This work is vital. Mosley recorded his memoirs and these form the basis of the archive but more old comrades are needed to come forward to recall their part, however small, in the struggle to put the **GREAT** back into Britain.

Since Friends of O.M. began the project early in 1988, over 30 old comrades have participated. It takes only an hour or two in your own home. We have no fear in this mounting archive of tape cassettes going down to future generations in an unexpurgated form.

As Mosley said, "Let all things be discussed and let truth prevail".

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

*"What though we ourselves be
slain,
This, our Faith can never die!"*

BURTONSHAW, F.I./Sgt D.F:

RAF(VR):156 Sqdn: Killed in action in Lancaster JB640 on Berlin operation 3.1.1944: Age 20, one of three young members of British Union's Brighton Branch known to have died in armed forces 1939/45.

BREAKTHROUGH

**Fair Deal at last for
MOSLEY
and his Blackshirts**



In the last issue of Comrade, we complimented the Lancashire Evening Telegraph on printing a full and fair reply to a scurrilous attack on Mosley's Blackshirts, likening them to today's football hooligans. The story by Colin Thomas also appeared in the Kent Evening Post with similar headlined treatment. We must also thank that paper for their abridged but fair reply, and for a further reader's letter on the subject. We cannot recall such freedom of the press to Mosley's supporters since Lord Rothermere's DAILY MAIL briefly backed the BUF in the early 1930s.

Bid to blacken a good name

Kent Evening Post
13 October 1988

AS one of the 1930s young able to defend comrades I take the allegation of Blackshirt the streets, tizzing them hooligans.

Your contr appears to have his sources on that have been



Sir Oswald Mosley and his Blackshirts in Ashford
In 1933

Kent Evening Post
4 October 1988

Aid to students

An area of expanding activity during 1988 has been the help given by Friends of O.M. to graduate and undergraduate students in their studies of varied aspects of the Mosley story.

We are not afraid of these new researches into our past. We accept the integrity of this newer generations search for truth. Small 'warts' may be found, but we who remain who lived through those challenging and stirring times are fully confident that the ultimate image for posterity will be of a brotherhood of British men and women whose purpose, honesty and integrity is unsurpassed.

The emerging Truth

This month's issue was of special value and significance for me, since much of it dealt with the way Mosley's followers and supporters struggled to sustain the Movement during the 1940-1945 period. There are glimpses of this in the released Public Record Office material but nothing substantial.... I am more than ever astonished at the sheer hypocrisy of the Government in its treatment of BUF members during the war. On the one hand interned hundreds as potential "traitors" and on the other utilizing dozens of them for the more dangerous tasks. This struck me with some force on re-reading the latest Comrades.

Letter from London University graduate

1988

Mosley: Tory not Liberal

THERE has been some interesting controversy in the Post concerning the politics of the late Sir Oswald Mosley. The ironical contention, by Colin Thomas, that Mosley joined the Liberal Party, now seems to have been corrected.

In fact, Oswald Mosley was the Conservative MP for Harrow from 1918 to 1923. He disagreed with the Tories over the behaviour of the Black and Tan Militia in Ireland, and twice contested Harrow as an independent candidate.

On both occasions he beat official Conservative opponents with comfortable majorities. Contrary to the Colin Thomas article, Mosley joined the Labour Party via the Independent Labour Party to begin his mercurial phase within Labour's ranks.

□ □

Colin Thomas repeated the legendary assumption that Mosley was seen as a future Labour leader. By this criterion he could have become the Prime Minister had he not abandoned the conventional spectrum of British politics, and founded firstly the New Party and later the British Union of Fascists.

I understand that the BUF actually held a rally in Rochester Casino sometime during the 1930s. If

Kent Evening Post
25 October 1988



Mosley on a visit to Cranbrook

this is correct do the local newspapers have any verification of the meeting from existing archives?

Perhaps some older readers of the Post might even have recollections to tell us of the night that Mosley came to Medway. — Alan Wells, Gordon Road, Strood.

IN MEMORIAM

"THEIR NAME LIVETH FOR EVER MORE"

BANGS.—LT JACK P.L.R., Sussex Regt., killed in action Belgium, Nov. 3, 1944. His noble sacrifice. Our remembrance. British Union Old Comrades Assoc.

BUCKNELL.—Sgt. P.H. RONALD R.A.F.V.R., 83 Sqdn. killed in action Berlin, Nov. 15, 1940. His noble sacrifice. Our remembrance. British Union Old Comrades Assoc.

CRUICKSHANK.—HOSPITAL 1914-1918. Remembering those who went straight from School to the Forces and perished.

"In Flanders fields...." and those who bravely followed them 1939-1945 and did not return.

SUNT LACRIMAE RERUM

GILLIES.—W/O JOHN H. R.A.F.V.R., 311 Sqdn. killed in operations, Nov. 30, 1943. His noble sacrifice. Our remembrance. British Union Old Comrades Assoc.

RHODES.—In memory of all Police, Women and Civilian; black and white who gave their lives for

Daily Telegraph
11 November 1988

In Germany us who still live—P.O. Benbow and Hon. 7TH MIDDLESEX REGIMENT.—In memory of the 95 Officers and 948 Other Ranks of the two Battalions of the 7th MIDDLESEX who, during the Great Wars of 1914-18 and 1939-45, Fell Gloriously on the Field of Battle in order that Right might triumph over Wrong and that Peace and Happiness might reign in the World. They will never be forgotten by their Comrades.

WHITE.—LT ALBERT, R.N.V.R., missing HM Trawler Northern Rover, Nov. 5, 1939. His noble sacrifice. Our remembrance. British Union Old Comrades Assoc.

The funding for this announcement donated by old comrade ARTHUR NASON

Daily Telegraph
8 February 1988

TO THE EDITOR

Patriotic Black Shirts

SIR—In her letter defending the Dutch resistance (Feb. 5) Mrs J. Bealing asks how many Mosleyites would have fought with the Germans if Britain had been invaded.

The first official casualty of the war was a 20-year-old Mosleyite, shot down over the Kiel Canal on September 4, 1939; and his 22-year-old Mosleyite comrade went down in the same Wellington.

By the end of the war many of Mosley's young men lay dead over three continents, having done their duty to their country even though they believed the war not to be in Britain's interests.

It would seem, then, that Mosleyites would have been in the van of the fight to repel any invader from British soil.

Daily Telegraph
3 August 1988

IN MEMORIAM "THEIR NAME LIVETH FOR EVER MORE" SUNDAY

BROCKING, G.T., DAY, K.G.—The First Casualties 9 Squadron RAF and Mosley's British Union Air Gunners Wellington L4275. Killed in action, Kell Canal, Sept. 4, 1939. For them a greater glory. DHC

IN MEMORIAM - WAR

DAY: BROCKING - Day K.G. and Brocking G.T. The first Casualties: 9 Squadron RAF, and of Mosley's British Union Air Gunners. Killed in action, Kell Canal, Sept. 4, 1939. For them a greater glory. DHC

WORLD WAR II INVESTIGATOR IN November 1988

9 SQUADRON RAF

Further to your tribute to 9 Squadron (Letters, August), six of the Squadron's Wellingtons took part in the raid on the Scharnhorst and Gneisenau at Brunsbüttel on the second day of the war. Two aircraft were lost, one to Sgt Alfred Held in a Me109 of II/JG77 based at Nordals, which marked the first Luftwaffe victory of the war against the RAF.

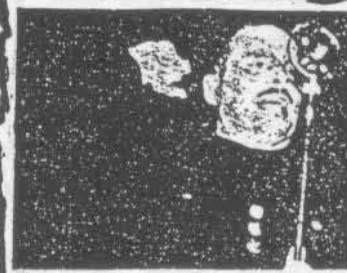
Reproduced by courtesy of Editor Charles Messenger

COMRADE

The most interesting story of the year was perhaps our own revelations on the death of **RUDOLF HESS** - the Stalin/Gorbachev connection & renegade **KIM PHILBY**, later also to depart this world, providing some trimming. Of the two 'strangers' in Spandau Prison prior to the Hess 'suicide', the poste-haste transfer of the American Army duty guard company and the cover-up of the present and previous British Government's on the Prisoner of Spandau.

"This is reminiscent of Schiller's Ballads, 'The Cranes of Ibycus' - for again the birds of Hess witnessed his murder" writes one correspondent paying some tribute to the literary aspect of our story.

A number of our submissions, which created world wide interest, were taken up and confirmed by reputable investig-



Sir Oswald addresses his followers.

AS one of that dwindling band of 1930s young Blackshirts still alive able to defend the honour of former comrades, and a Lancashire lad to boot, I take great exception to the allega-

Flying in Wellington L4275 were two young volunteer air gunners, Aircraftsmen 2nd Class K G Day and G T Brocking. Day was to be listed as Britain's first casualty of the war and his body, found ten days later by a cargo steamer between Elbe Lightships 1 and 2, was buried with full military honours at Cuxhaven Cemetery.

There is an unconfirmed report that Goering was present at the ceremony. Brocking's body (No 6 on the first British casualty list) was never found, his death being recorded on the Runnymede Memorial.

Particularly poignant and ironic is that these two young first casualties were members of Mosley's British Union and had paid the supreme sacrifice in a war which they believed not to be in British's interest, unnecessary, and which they had sought to prevent.

Even more so is the likelihood that if they had survived on operations until summer 1940 they would have been interned under Regulation 18B. This certainly happened to some followers of Mosley on their return from Dunkirk and also, according to the British Union of Fascists' official historian, the late Richard Reynell Bellamy, to a pilot who was badly wounded during the same raid on 4 September 1939.



RADIO MOSCOW "Recent re government, Michael Gorbachev of hope that your long-term release of war criminal Hess crowned with success." 14

The last double-cross The final obscenity

WHO KILLED HESS?



Rv JC

tion. "The findings you report would seem to provide a compelling motive and to corroborate the accumulated evidence of very long-standing collusion between the British and Russians" writes one historian investigating the Hess 'affair' for a number of years.

Like Ibycus, perhaps posterity will produce the avenging bird of Rudolf Hess.

Telegraph writer Colin Thomas describes Sir Oswald Mosley as "the football". But former Blackshirt JOHN G could be further from the

Lancashire
Evening Telegraph
18 October 1988

The classless brotherhood of Blackshirts

Mosley's followers were

'My Comrades In Struggle'

MOSLEY
1937

In our satisfaction of achievement in 1988, we cannot but pause but to remember the passing of dear old comrades during the year.

Bill Pitt, Eric Simpkins, Fred Shepherd, Dick Bellamy - just a few months after the obituary for his old friend Ron D'Alessio, and Arthur Beavan.

Our sadness however, is tempered by our oneness with them, knowing they would wish us not to mourn, but just to be remembered for their part in Mosley's crusade, their example a legacy for those to come.

In this area of its purpose, Friends of O.M. feels its existence justified by the comfort of continuing comradeship shared with them in the last years of their lives.

None more so than 87 yr old Arthur Beavan. On his death we assisted with disposal of his few possessions, collecting the typewriter we had given him to help his arthritic fingers tap out notes to his friends. "All his issues of 'Comrade' were meticulously filed" writes Ian Simpson, one of our 'watchers' who had also taped Arthur's memoirs shortly before his death. "In contrast to older documents and papers, the 'Comrades' were worn grubby

by what must have been his repetitious reading. It was obvious to me that he had regarded their content with much love in his last days".

We also collected his diary covering his wartime incarceration as a political prisoner and feel it fitting to conclude our thoughts with his final entry, sentiments he held until his dying day.

Recorded in maturity - he was then 40, behind him the experience of a First War merchant seaman at 14, a soldier in the United States army, a section leader in British Union's elite "I" Squad - the fabled 'hard man', yet the humility of his words exemplifies that high quality of life purpose prevalent in so many of those who gave all and dared all for Britain and for Mosley in their way to the stars.

"This detention has only served to make me more determined than ever to see that the Cause and the Leader emerge victorious. I consider that I am now more fit to take my place in the ranks of the Leader's followers.

So with patience I await the day when the call will come, when everything life holds may have to be sacrificed in order that Britain once again may live.....Hail Mosley"

TAILPIECE: Rudolf Hess

A FORMER British warder at Spandau prison and his brother-in-law face possible sentences of up to 15 years after allegedly trying to blackmail the son of Hitler's deputy, Rudolf Hess, who died in Spandau in August 1987, into buying his father's uniform and other possessions for £150,000.

The two men, named only as Steven T., 33, and Paul W., 23, were arrested at a Hamburg hotel on Saturday.....

According to Herr Cornel Christoffel, spokesman for the West Berlin Senator for Justice, both men have confessed, but are still under interrogation.....

[D. Telegraph: 13 December 1988]

1 Soldiering on

cated the remainder of our lives. The true story of the lives and times of Oswald Mosley and those who marched with him to be recorded for future generations so that they may gain from our example, the inspiration guiding them 'To Strive, To Seek, To Find - And Not to Yield' in pursuit of Mosley's high purpose. That man must surpass himself in an ever upward evolution to higher forms, a purpose for which is fundamental the survival, and now in great danger, of the British and European peoples.

We will not expend further words on what has been done in 1988. We

believe that this issue speaks for itself.

Birth of FOM

Readers might think that Friends of O.M. have come a long way since a handful of old comrades, in the absence of any other organised commemoration, met in a small public room to commemorate the birth of their Leader, Oswald Mosley shortly after his death, and vowed to continue annually to do so, and to search and find those old comrades who we knew would be alone, perhaps forgotten, but paying their own homage to 'The Leader' on that day.

And in November we could only but have some pride in what had been achieved when looked around at the nearly

130 that sat down at that Commemoration Dinner in the presence of Lady Mosley, and seeing many old comrades there for the first time. A full report will be in the next Comrade.

The same could be said for Comrade, still not yet three years old. Originally started as a simple newsletter to keep old comrades in touch, its objectives expanded and from all reports it is very much welcomed in many different areas here and abroad.

'Troubled Times'

For 1989 it will be 'more of the same' but one area in which we are expanding is that of book publishing. Plans have been made to self-finance our first book which will be the memoirs of old comrade John Charnley, the original title of his manuscript "Troubled Times". Details of publication will be announced in Comrade.

And as we said, in 1989, "We soldier on". Striving, seeking finding, unyielding.

Standing alone but united in the wealth of that warm comradeship born in the First War trenches, maturing in Mosley's Blackshirt brotherhood.

The progenitors of renaissance of our British Motherland and European Fatherland.

With loyalty to Mosley supreme.

Your Free Newsheet

COMRADE's readers will recall that we do not discuss matters relating to our finances in our pages, nor do we solicit funding for Comrade's free issue and distribution.

Except on this occasion each year when remind all our readers that those wishing to show their appreciation by donation should forward these, small or large, to Fred Bailey at the published address, made payable to Friends of O.M.

We also always make very clear that this reminder is not directed at those old comrades on low incomes.

★LATE NEWS

We regret to have to report the death on December 16 of RAYMOND NARSDEN of Manchester.

"Ray would have been 65 on 1st. January" writes old comrade Gordon Gee. "A good comrade and great friend of mine. I served with him for twentyeight years in Union Movement. He was loyal to the last and devoted to O.M. and the Cause for which we have given many years."

Looking forward to the next issue of Comrade and fighting on in the New Year with the Friends of O.M. Mosley's Spirit Live On."

Published for Friends of O.M. by John Christian
101, Orwell Court, Ramall Road, London, E8 4PP

In Memoriam

"Hark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages,
Britain listens and rejoices,
Gazing on Tradition's pages...."

AITKEN, Andrew: P/Off RAF: early British Union member: flying accident Sussex, December 1937

ALLEN, Comdt. Mary: OBE: former suffragette and co-founder of first women's police force in World War I: Head of Women's Auxilliary Service 1914-1940: Member British Union and Union Movement: Under virtual house arrest in World War II: In December 1964

BAILEY, Jack: Bethnal Green British Union and Union Movement: Father of FOM Council members Fred and Sid Bailey: Age 82: On 19 January 1965

BECKETT, Mrs Joe: wife of former English Heavy Weight Champion Joe Beckett: Like her husband member of British Union and Union Movement: Political Prisoner Holloway Goal 1940: On 12 December 1952

BIRD, Mr A.J.: former Inspector of Schools Middlesex and Principle Kilburn Poly.: Member Kilburn British Union: In January 1939

BOWLER Mr A.E.: Ealing British Union & Union Movement: In December 1976

BROWN, Prof. A.E. MA LLB: former Professor of International Law, Calcutta: Member Cambridge On 6 January 1939

COKER Mrs: British Union and mother of Union Movement Walthamstow Br. Leader Ernest Coker: In January 1950

D'ALESSIO, Ron: First British British Union District Leader Plymouth & later of Cheltenham: 188 British political prisoner 1940: On 18 January 1987

DONOVAN Mr J.E.: Limehouse British Union seaman member: as Don Beresford regular contributor to 'Action' on marine affairs: Suddenly at 30, after South American trip: In January 1938

DOWDY, Mrs L.A.: wife of John Dowdy, British Union Parliamentary Candidate Evesham: In January 1976

OUTFIELD, K.T.: Epping British Union and 188 British political prisoner: In December 1986

ELAM, Dudley: British Union's elderly receptionist at NHQ Westminster: British political prisoner 1940 contributing to his death. His wife, British Union Parliamentary Candidate for Northampton also jailed in Holloway Goal: In December 1948

FITT, Bill: Epping Branch speaker British Union.

On 30 January 1988

FRANCIS-HAWKINS, Neil: Pioneer member later Director General British Union: Incarcerated Brixton Jail 1940-44 as a political prisoner leading to his early death at 43.

On 25 December 1950

GRANT of Shoreditch British Union: father of family of of Mosley supporters.

In December 1948

HANSELL, Mrs Florence: Bethnal Green British Union & Union Movement: wartime collector 188 Detainees Fund.

In December 1950

HILL M.W.: early British Union member and part founder of Taunton Branch whose two sons also joined Mosley.

In January 1938

HOLMAN, Percy: Southampton British Union & Union Movement: following a road accident On 31 December 1977

KITCHEN, Mrs Sabina: Mother of Union Movement's Ken Kitchen of Leamington Spa: A staunch supporter of the Movement.

On 8 December 1975

SUTHERLAND Mrs M.A. 'Ma': A most loyal Mosley supporter, friend and confidant of many East London British Union members in her Stepney cafe before her retirement to Norfolk. In January 1975

SCORE Mr R.G.: Bournemouth British Union, father of D/L Score. On 13 January 1940

VERDAN ROE, Sir Alliot: Early pioneer flyer and founder of AVRO: lost 2 sons in air ops. World War II.

At 80 on 4 January 1958

WARBURTON, Edmund 'Ned': New Party and British Union Manchester and NHQ Branch: Lost eye in 'battle of Stockton-on-Tees' 1933: Pioneer Corps World War II.

On 31 December 1984

WILLIAMSON, Hugh Ross: 1930s contributor to 'Action' when in Labour Party: Playwright and author of "Who is for Liberty": A good friend of the Mosley Movements.

In January 1978

WOODWARD Mr L.A.: Dorset West British Union.

On 28 January 1938

Still in spirit with us.

"Patriots: your cry is heeded!
Heroes: death was not in vain!
We to your place have succeeded,
Britain shall be great again!"

THANKS

FRED BAILEY thanks the anonymous donator of £500 to the Funds of Friends of O.M.

University News

Hear that Richard Thurlow is to teach a course on British Fascism, 1932-40 in the Department of History, University of Sheffield, from October 1989.

Dr. Thurlow's Fascism in Britain: A History, 1918-1985 was reviewed by Gordon Beckwell in Comrade in 1987.

Unique British Union records were donated to Sheffield University for academic research last year by Robert Saunders, OBE, former British Union District Leader Dorset West. J.C

OBITUARY

Harold Podmore

AS we go to press we hear from Ontario of the death last August of another old comrade, HAROLD PODMORE, who emigrated to Canada some years ago. He was at one time a member of British Union's Norwood Branch, and later became a London District Inspector.

Polly Baldwin

94 yr old POLLY was never a Mosley member. She could not even be accurately described as a supporter.

She was however one of the best friends we had in East London over the past 32 years where until a few months ago she was 'landlord' of the BLADE BONE pub in Bethnal Green.

She had always made MOSLEY and 'his boys' welcome - come what may and in latter years her tiny figure seated on a stool behind the bar will always be remembered by those who attended small Friends of O.M. social evenings when she frequently provided refreshment.

Polly Baldwin, mother of eight, known locally for her charity work and relations with the boxing fraternity, was a thoroughbred 'East Ender'. She died on December 2nd and FOM paid their respects at her funeral, represented by our Bethnal Green old 'battler', 82 yr old Dickie Burwood. And among the many floral tributes was one from those she affectionately named as 'The Mosley Boys'.

COMRADE



NEWSLETTER OF FRIENDS OF O.M.

NO.17 FEBRUARY / MARCH 1989 30P

"The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow"

FOREVER
MOSLEY
page 2

This royal throne of kings, this scepter'd isle,
This earth of majesty, this seat of Mars,
This other Eden, demi-paradise,....
This happy breed of men, this little world,
This precious stone set in the silver sea,...
This blessed plot, this earth, this realm,....."

BATTERED
BUT
UNBOWED
page 4

British Union
ROLL OF HONOUR
1939 1945

"What though we ourselves be
smitten,
This, our faith can never die!"

BROOKER, Gnr C.G.: 90 Field
Regt. RA: Exeter Branch
BRITISH UNION: 188 political
prisoner 1940-42: Died Pris-
oner of War 8 March 1945:
Name inscribed on Cassino
Memorial, Italy.

JONES, Captain F.R.F.: 6th
Bn 14th Punjab Regt: Norwood
Branch BRITISH UNION: killed
in action Malaya February 11
1942: age 22: name inscribed
at the Kranji War Cemetery,
Singapore.

THIS ENGLAND

OUR ENGLAND. The England from whom we sprung. Begat by forebears of like stock. Growing layer upon layer like our English oak, to a maturity immortalized by England's greatest poet: "This happy breed of men".

OUR ENGLAND. For whom we of the last war generation sacrificed our youth, suffered much, and many died before they had lived.

OUR ENGLAND. For whom the fathers we had never known gave their tomorrows in that earlier holocaust.

OUR ENGLAND. For whom Englishmen, whatever 'war aims' they may be fed, have ever fulfilled her age-old call to duty - a deep-rooted instinct born out of England's past that his taking to arms is to defend the right of an Englishman to tread "this blessed plot, this earth, this realm, this England" in the footsteps of the countless generations that had gone before - a heritage to be passed on unsullied to his children and his children's children.

OUR ENGLAND. The England of Nelson, Wellington, and Francis Drake: of Shakespeare, Elizabeth, and London Town. of our once smoke-ridden Northern industrial towns and cities - but OURS - from which burst out in 1914 those regiments of 'Pals', to be slaughtered in their thousands at Passchendaele and the Somme.

OUR ENGLAND. For whom Englishmen have ever fulfilled the age-old call to arms, whatever 'war aims' they may be fed. From England's past comes that deep belief that his taking up of arms is a defence of the right of an Englishman to tread "this blessed plot, this earth, this realm, this ENGLAND" in the footsteps of his fathers, a right, a duty, a heritage, to be passed on unsullied to his children and his children's children.

Old Moslem customs in London and Manchester.
1939 War Propaganda Poster



1939: 'OURS' Then - 1989: Whose Now?

1999?



gation of the long history of this island race.

Recent events have focussed sharply on the great danger of loss of identity of our people. The writing is on the wall now bold and clear as never before for all but those who will not see.

The Government suggest there are now 2½ million 'Third World' immigrants, including 1 million Moslems. And some! Two years ago Judge Michael Argyle suggested there were 5 million illegals here. Lord Denning disagreed: there were only 250,000! In many parts of the world the next decade or so is going to see a population explosion, some African countries will see it doubled. Many will reach out for these shores and unless there is a radical change in the thinking and tightening up of immigration laws it will be impossible to contain. Britain will not need to think any more about the 'Third World'. She will be part of it.

Is it to be the end of our long and glorious line? Is 'this happy breed' to become just an enclave of 'ethnic English', surviving unheard and unsung, dreaming of past glory, or will 'extinct species' be the recording of history?

IT MUST NOT BE. IT SHALL NOT BE.

OUR ENGLAND - or Their 'England'? That England that is becoming no longer the land of our fathers. Where in many areas it is the Englishman who suffers discrimination, his customs flouted, his laws not enforced for sake of 'race relations', and his conscience battered to accept his 'guilt' for being an Englishman.

All for the cause of a 'multiracial society', a dream and a fraud dreamed up by successive cowardly politicians playing the party game to the detriment of the indigenious population, and in ne-

CANDIDATE



1937: JOHN CHARNLEY with Oswald Mosley and British Union's Director General Neil Francis-Hawkins after the announcement of Charnley as Parliamentary Candidate for Hull East.

"If I believed in anything it was Mosleyism. I believed in the man. I believed in his honesty, his sincerity, his integrity, his ability, his vision, and because I believed in these things, and because I found all other politicians wanting in comparison, I was convinced that my dedication was true...."

For John Charnley....

FOREVER MOSLEY

THE news of the death of old comrade JOHN CHARNLEY received as we went to press could only be briefly reported in our January issue.

In this issue we make our tribute to one of Mosley's finest men. By his own words extracted from his memoirs, which we have arranged publication in the near future, he records for posterity an example of loyalty, purpose, and the will to endure.

My seven pre-war years in British Union were years of excitement, almost of adventure, with a commitment of near religious fervour to a man and an ideal that gave me an unforgettable experience of comradeship that perhaps no man can expect to meet again.

The death of Oswald Mosley created a void in my life which nothing can replace. I suffered a permanent devastation of spirit which simply defies description, and which cannot be assuaged. No words can ever convey or express my sense of loss. Mosley was unique. For me and many others, he was the greatest Englishman of his age. His repudiation by the Establishment was, and remains, England's tragedy. I miss him more than I can say.

Now, nearing the end of my life, I sometimes ask myself what was it all for? How could so much effort, so much involvement, dedication and belief, how could it all come to nothing?

Surely there is something left upon which a New Ideal can be built? I hope so. It is an eternal hope. I was never truly a politician. I was - and remain - a Mosley man. One hears today much talk about 'Thatcherism'; though nobody knows what it is. In the thirties no one ever referred to Mosleyism, but if I believed in anything it was Mosleyism. I believed in the man. I believed in his honesty, his sincerity, his integrity, his ability, his vision, and because I believed in these things, and because I found all other politicians wanting

in comparison, I was convinced that my dedication was true, and not wasted.

And so I hope that the great crusade which inspired tens of thousands of our British people will have lit a torch whose flame will inspire anew. For it is certain that our country has need of it.

Someone once asked me to compare Oswald Mosley with any previous figure in English history, and the nearest I could come up with was a combination of two, both boyhood heroes; Hereward the Wake and Simon de Montfort.

Mosley represented the past and had this great vision of the future, and he married the two in a new ideology. I was and remain a Mosley man.

For me "His Spirit Lives."

SPEAKER



OLD COMRADES REMEMBER

From ARTHUR MARSON, one time young member of Charnley's Hull British Union Branch who followed him into concentration camp in 1940 and now lives in Germany.

Although I had not seen him for many years I always knew through the old 'bush telegraph' more or less what he was doing and always regarded him as an old friend. We did speak briefly on the 'phone two or three years ago when he called me in Germany after I had discovered FOM.

Apart from his many other qualities, JC was also 'good fun'. In those far-off BU days we fancied ourselves as motor-bike artists and he was prepared to run downhill with throttle full open on an old BSA "Sloper" 350 which compared with today's Hondas and Kawasakis might sound old George's Rocket. It was nevertheless good fun, and we had a lot of it.

In my young days JC had some influence on me. He was not only a loyal Mosley man but a person of great integrity and courage.

Almost as if to say he will always be with us, his Christmas arrived after his death.

From ARTHUR SWAN, Camp Leader at Ascot Concentration Camp and British Union District Treasurer, Lowestoft.

I did not meet John Charnley until we arrived at Ascot 18B Camp from Walton Goal. I see him as a wiry and extremely

1949: CHARNLEY speaks in London in support of Union Movement candidates in Bethnal Green

POLITICAL PRISONER



1941: CHARNLEY arrives at Fleetwood from the Isle of Man with 17 other political prisoners. They were 'deported' as 'ring leaders' of the 'riot' at Peveril Concentration Camp following ill-treatment of recaptured escapees.

Charnley was taken to Walton and Brixton Jails. Later he was returned to the island Concentration Camp

energetic figure, one of the dozen or so among 300 BU men who became impressed upon my memory in the first few weeks of those chaotic conditions into which we had been thrown.

As I write I see his high cheek-bones and piercing eyes with small goatee beard looking intensely at me as we walk around the compound discussing the past, present and hopes for the future.

My deep respects to a dedicated Blackshirt and his undimmed faith in OM.

From RONALD CREESE, British Union District Leader, Eye Suffolk.

The time of 18B now seems such a different but fulfilling world. Some of it has become part of a mist while the rest of the structure remains as yesterday. All put into that outrageous position who I saw or spoke to left an in-

TRICK OF THE TWENTYETH CENTURY

We opposed British involvement in the Abyssinia War and the Spanish Civil War. We campaigned against the war of 1939. We spoke against war in Suez and the war in Vietnam. So we may speak now with some authority on the subject of peace.

Peace is the absence of war by diplomatic means. People will always live in the shadow of nuclear weapons. If all the warheads in the world were destroyed tomorrow the threat would still remain. Because the knowledge and resources to build them anew would remain. Those who know say it could be done in 14 days.

Nobody can turn back the clock to the safety of some second pre-nuclear age. But by shrewd diplomacy, intelligent minds can roll back the risk. Or use the fear of annihilation to win bloodless victories.

Mr. Gorbochev understands this perfectly because he is by far the most intelligent of all the world's leaders. But does the world understand Mr. Gorbochev?

THOUGHTS THAT

By GORDON
BECKWELL

COME
IN A



A Column
of
Forward
Looking
personal
views on
Mosley
Thought

WE'LL KEEP THE RED FLAG FLYING HERE

Contrary to the belief of popular self-delusion, his imposed task is not to dismantle communism. Instead, he wants to make it work more efficiently and appear more appealing. So out go Bureaucracy and the Thumb Screw. Have they not held communism back for 2 generations? reasons the Soviet leader.

Don't cover up the Katyn Massacre any more, denounce it. It costs nothing to win the trust of the West.

WHEN WORDS SPEAK LOUDER THAN ACTIONS

You don't even have to reduce arms: just say that you are going to. Before long, people believe you've done it and fall over themselves to praise you. Gorbochev has discovered that it's enough

just to tell people what they want to hear and they will believe it has already happened.

Simply announce that Soviet Forces are now structured for defence purposes alone: they will accept it as a fact. Even if Norway points out that Russia has considerably strengthened its Northern Fleet recently with a new aircraft carrier and huge nuclear-powered cruiser.

When the U.S. found it had bitten off more than it could chew in Vietnam, their withdrawal was seen universally as defeat. Yet when the same thing happens to the Russians in Afghanistan they present their departure as a gesture of peace and goodwill. Who will gainsay it?

But the division of Western Europe from the U.S., and the undermining of inter-European defence links, remain the Soviet's first policy

objective.

It becomes more difficult to convince people to go on paying for military deterrents when all the other side seems to talk about is peace.

We remember, however, that nobody rises to the top, and survives the purges in Soviet Russia who has not mastered the art of ruthlessness and passed muster in Marxist-Leninism. The latter teaches in every academy of Soviet thought the two great principles: 1. Communism cannot work efficiently until the whole world is communist, and 2: So long as one country in the world remains non-communist it will be used as a base for counter-revolution against communism.

Greater personal freedom in Russia may be real and irreversible but it serves the same master plan.

However, Gorbochev's 'Charm Offensive' has started a line in peace talk that can be skillfully 'turned' by intelligent minds in the West to win real safeguards for peace: Gorbochev can become a hostage to his own words.

But where are the politico-P.R. Poker Players on our side to match the cunning of the New Kremlin Set?

Mosley could have done it. Are all the great men dead?

Farewell John-

delible mark in my mind, alternating between deep sorrow and admiration.

One such was John Charnley who gave a clear impression of a richly dedicated man. Strong in temperament and character. Imbued with all the Movement stood for. A man prepared to give the last ounce in the struggle and demands of the time. His place in the body of the cause a valuable asset which will not diminish with the years to come when society has put itself upon a higher plane in which it will be indebted to him.

From HILDA BELLAMY, widow of British Union's historian Dick Bellamy who died last August and for whom "God rest you Dick" were John's last words to his old friend in Comrade's tribute.

With four children I was a very 'inactive' member and did not know John until after the War, but I know if Dick was still here he would have written a wonderful tribute to John for whom he had the greatest respect and affection.

I do know though that he was a staunch and dedicated Blackshirt and loyal comrade who continued to expound OM's policies to the end.

Altogether a most splendid character.

From ROBERT SAUNDERS OBE.,

British Union District Leader, Dorset West.

John Charnley was a man who was very loyal to OM, and one who was true to his beliefs, which he held with deep sincerity and expressed with courage. Even those who might not have agreed with him are poorer for the passing of a man of his integrity.

From JOHN CHRISTIAN, Editor "Comrade".

John and I had only met once - at the FOM Buffet two years ago in Manchester. With immense courage John had made the journey in wheelchair from Southport for his last reunion with his old comrades.

His friend and attendant informed me that he believed that the birth of FOM had extended John's life, by several years.

When FOM 'found' him just before the 1985 Commemoration Dinner he replied "it's nice to know I am still remembered and that functions are being organised in support of our beloved O.M. I shall always look back on my Blackshirt days as the happiest and most satisfying of my life".

From that day, my special JC letter file, and probably our joint telephone accounts arising from our long and frequent conversations denote the closeness of our relationship and his support for the work of FOM.

He had known and fought many battles with my brother in the early days of the

Blackshirt's fight to survive in the North which no doubt gave that extra warmth.

We had spoken only a few days before his death which though anticipated was not really believed.

"Do not mourn for me Johnny" he said a few weeks before his death. His doctor had given him six months a year before and he correctly assessed the silence after telling me that he was now on 'borrowed time' and that he felt the end was nigh.

"I have had a good life, a wonderful wife, and walked in the shadow of the greatest Englishman that ever lived" he continued. "And I have shared the comradeship of some of the finest men in human history. Carry on our eternal ever upward struggle in Mosley's image. I shall be ever with you."

John Charnley fought the good fight far beyond the end, striving to last to see his memoirs which FOM have arranged publication. It was not to be: the enemy time. To that extent we failed him.

His going accentuates that personal aching void born out of the physical passing of so many of British Union's sons, their laughing loving faces piercing the mists of the years, marching, marching, ever marching for that Greater Britain they saw before them, their hearts made full with their Leader's "there are greater things than slothful ease: greater things than safety; more terrible things

than death."

Time now presses for we few who are left and those ghostly figures beckon. We hear their warm voices of welcome - but also their call to pass on the example of their selfless sacrifice for Britain's sake to those of the younger generations searching for fulfilment and leadership to rise above Britain's accelerating plunge to decadence.

Farewell John Charnley. In death as in life, your spirit unquenchable. A presence to lighten the path of striving towards higher forms upon this earth.

LAST POST



1987: By wheelchair to Friends of O.M.s Buffet in Manchester where John was to meet his old comrades for the first time in years. It was to be his last reunion

His treatment caused a riot



ARTHUR MASON leaves Douglas Court House for gaol after sentence to six months hard labour for stealing a motor boat

The night was foggy and the sirens were working overtime. Neither of us had much experience at rowing but nevertheless we carried on our merry way.

Walker used his compass and Barry the oars. There was some disagreement about this but Barry had to do as he was told as Walker was his senior in the IRA.

Came the dawn and we were still afloat and were spotted by a Scottish fishing boat, the "Violet Rose". "What are you doing of course. Do you want a tow?" they hailed. We refused their kind offer shouting that we were fishing and they sailed on, but later in the morning two aircraft appeared to be searching so we stopped rowing to make it more difficult to be spotted.

About 10 am we were approached by the naval patrol boat "HMS Orchard" so we again stopped rowing and unconcernedly ate our apples. I thought 'this is it' and could hardly believe it when they moved off after giving them our 'fishing' answer to their enquiry.

'Guests' of "HMS Radiant"

We continued rowing until about 3 pm when we were spotted by another naval patrol boat and this time I knew it must be the end. They made straight for us, circled around, their guns trained on us and the decks lined with armed sailors. A boat was launched with a dozen crew who took us in tow and hauled us on deck, telling us we were under arrest.

"We continued rowing until about 3 pm when we were spotted by another naval patrol boat and this time I knew it must be the end. They made straight for us, circled around, their guns trained on us and the deck lined with armed sailors"

BATTERED BUT UNBOWED

One-time British Union District Leader, Limehouse, and holder of the Bronze Distinction 'for Service and Devotion to the Cause', double-escaper from Britain's wartime concentration camps, **ARTHUR MASON** concludes the story of his escape after tunneling his way to freedom from Peveril Concentration Camp, Isle of Man in 1941

I found the officer commanding "HMS Radiant" most courteous. He gave us food and drink and told us that we were very lucky as if the weather had changed, as it often did suddenly in the Irish Sea, we would not have stood much chance in a small boat. A number of the crew however I felt would have liked very much to have finished us off!

The Manx police were waiting for us when we arrived at Douglas a few hours later, and it was clear when they asked how we had escaped that they had not found the tunnel. So I told them it was the same way as my previous escape from Huxton Camp which seemed to please them. With the tunnel undiscovered this left the way open for other escapes, or 'escapades' as I learned later that the other three we had lost at Glen Moye gave it up as a bad job and returned to the camp by the tunnel!

'You can keep on starving'

We were escorted to Peel and handed over to the army at their HQ in the Hotel Greg Malin where the acting Commandant Captain Ryan immediately started his bullying tactics. "You have starved for 4 days and you can keep on starving" he replied to our request for food. This got our backs up and we said what we thought of him, and when ordered to strip told him to do it himself. He ordered a sergeant and soldiers to do it and they did not like it at all and were most embarrassed as we stood there with arms folded and as stiff as ramrods.

In time they succeeded and after dressing we were ordered to the cells but as we appeared outside, the barbed wire fence was lined with detainees calling for our release and for us to be fed, the news having somehow got through. We managed to get over that food had been refused and in a short time a deputation from the Camp Committee met Ryan but he remained adamant that there was to be no food for the prisoners.

'All hell broke out'

When the detainees heard of this decision all hell broke out and went on for some hours. About 11 pm the cell doors were unlocked and in came the army with some of our British Union members bringing us tucker. The Army had bowed to my comrades in the camp.

The next day we remained locked in our cells and turned in about 8 pm, but come 1 am - so that our comrades in the camp would not know of it - we were roused, the Manx police appeared and charged us with stealing "a boat, oars and rowlocks". We dressed and were taken by van to Douglas police station.

The following day we appeared in Court and were remanded for two days to Douglas Jail where the Governor appeared with three warders as we waited outside his office. One warder got very officious; told us to stand to attention, stop talking, and gave me a push. We did not like this one bit and we got hold of him and put him on the floor, telling

the Governor that if we were treated like human beings there would be no trouble. We went to the cells and later discovered why the Governor had looked so worried.

We had seen the complete male staff of the prison!

According to Christian, the warder we had put down, only the Church Times was allowed in prison, but the following day he awakened me at 5.30 am and gave me the Daily Mail saying I could only have a half-hour to read it, and would I tell my comrades of his action. This happened every morning whilst I was there, and he also brought sweets. Talking, even on exercise was forbidden but we were allowed to disregard that regulation.

On our way to our next court appearance I saw a newspaper poster on "Prisoners



Police Chief Inspector SAM OGDEN

Became Commandant of Peveril Camp after the 'riot' and 'tamed' Mason with a gift of tame rabbits!

escape through tunnel" and I thought at first that more had escaped, but I was soon to learn that it was us to whom it referred.

In Court I met Sergeant Gale, the police officer I had previously told I had got out over the wire. He was a disappointed man and would not speak to me. We were again remanded to Douglas Jail and sent for trial in November.

Much of the time during the 8 week remand was spent on reading from books drawn from the library as remand prisoners were not permitted to work. I had for many years suffered with Osteomyelitis, and had a diseased bone in my right arm which started to give a great deal of pain. I saw the doctor but the only treatment I could get was aspirin and what was really needed was an operation.

With us in the prison were three Anglo-Italians doing 6 months for some trouble in their camp, a soldier, and a sailor from Wood Green who was a communist. Later, three newcomers arrived all Dutchmen. Meerman, a Dutch naval officer; Schultz, a pilot of the Dutch Air Lines, and Van Der Boon, a merchant seaman. They had previously escaped from their camp, taken a sailing boat into the Irish Sea but a storm springing up drove them around the Island into Whitehaven on the Cumberland coast. It was bad luck for without the storm they would have made it to Ireland.

At the trial on November 18th, 1941, I was given 6 months hard labour, Barry receiving 9 months, and Walker 12 months. I then became eligible for work on mail bags and for the last 3 months became an expert in the chopping of firewood.

At the end of my term I was collected by the Metropolitan Police who in my absence had taken over the running of the Camp, the Army only acting as perimeter guards.

For once, a quick and wise Government decision arising out of our escape and subsequent demonstration by my comrades when food was refused on our return to the Island. The police turned out to be far superior to the army for they understood human nature.

'How about tame rabbits?'

I was taken before the new Camp Commandant, Stan Ogden, former Chief Inspector of the Met's West End Central Police. He lectured me on the error of my ways and then suggested I should have an interest. "How about tame rabbits?" he said. To show I was really a reasonable sort of chap I agreed and he found me some. Later, rabbit stew was often on the menu.

Some weeks later my arm

★ Cassandra ★

SIX hundred blackshirt port-lary to the Home Office-a powerful and important character-arrived to pour oil on the burning waters. Created with leers and catcalls, the Home Office...
These of them managed to crawl out and set sail for...
...the big clean-up...

Churchill Order Riot Camp Guard

CHIEFS CHOSEN WITHIN...
By Daily Mail Reporter...
The guard of Metropolitan police officers arrived in the Isle of Man last night...
The Fascist internment camps were formed...
The express command of Mr. Winston Churchill...
The officials carried out an order...

IOM: Car of trouble lands in jail

Three Fascists-Joseph Walker of Great Nelson Street, Liverpool; Harry (23), Marine Avenue, Warrington; and Leonard Mason of Woodgate, Forest Gate, London...
On Wednesday evening escaped from the Isle of Man internment camp, were...
...the big clean-up...

SENSATIONAL STORY OF CAMP ESCAPE.

FASCIST SAYS OUTSIDE "CONTACT"

Mystery Man Aids Detainees' Escape.

(continued from page 1)
MYSTERIOUS "MR. X." thought the boat belonged to Walker's "Contact," and had no idea it was stolen. "I never stole the boat; I never broke and entered the warehouse. I do not know where it is."

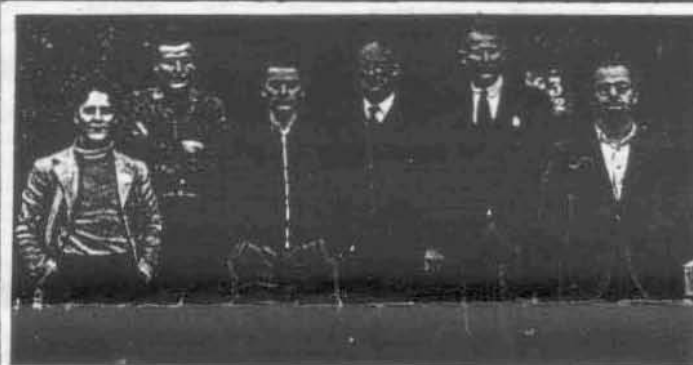
FIELD-DAY FOR WARTIME MEDIA

started to give trouble again and I applied to the Army Medical Officer, a Major Flowerdew, for hospital treatment. He refused it. Said I was a trouble maker, and dismissed me. Fortunately I had been accompanied by our own detainee Medical Officer, Professor Bode, and he reported what had happened to the Police Commandant who immediately put me into the Camp Hospital. Two days later I was in Douglas's Noble Hosp-

ital where I spent the next three weeks after Mr. Hampton, a very kind surgeon, had performed an operation to open and drain the bone.

Back in camp I was eventually permitted to work on a dairy farm owned by a Mr. Tom Cowell. He and his wife were a nice couple with two children. I used to obtain from the farm the feed for the many rabbits I was now breeding, carrying it in a sack under which lay hidden food

POLITICAL PRISONERS of CAMP X : 4.



BLACKSHIRT 'GORILLAS' ?

Just a few of Mason's British Union comrades in Peveril Concentration Camp. The gutter press's 'blackshirt gorillas' who could not answer back. Ltor. TED FOWLER, LARRY ROBINSON, HARRY WHITBREAD - who are still with us - JOHN WYNN, FENN, and BILL EATON who passed away in February. Whitbread assisted Mason in his first escape. John Wynn, an RFC pilot in World War I died in 1980. In 1943, after his release, he produced with great courage, "It Might Have Happened to You", a 40-page exposure of the plight of Britain's political prisoners and the injustice of detention of British subjects without any charge made against them.

Mason Today



No plans now for tunnels, or escapes, or other adventures at his "Mason's Place" home in South Australia. But don't rely on it. You never can tell with Arthur 'Wakey' Mason!

and other requirements that Mrs. Cowell had kindly given to me.

I was finally released after 3½ years detention on the eve of The Leader's birthday, 15th November 1943. There was all the usual regulations and restrictions including reporting to the police which lasted until May 9th, 1945.

Shortly after my release I received a letter stating that I had not registered for military service! I had in fact done so in 1940 but apparently the building where I signed on had been bombed and burnt out.

I refused to sign again saying I had registered once but things had now changed.

If I was a traitor from 1940 to 1943 I must still be one as my views had not changed.

I continued to refuse to resign for the reasons given and in due course they gave up and left me alone.

My old Limehouse Branch's George Dunlop got me a job in a paper factory but I lost it after a year when I was recognised by a person who knew me before the war. After that I managed to get jobs with old British Union comrades and I survived.

It was tough going at times but worth it to share the comradeship of so many fine men in British Union in the struggle for a Greater Britain before the war and our unjust detention during the war.

I would not change it.

DO YOU REMEMBER. 1.



F.J.P. Veale

F.J.P. VEALE who died in 1976, was a prominent member of the community in Brighton and also a prominent member of Brighton Branch British Union. By profession he was a solicitor and conducted his own practice. He was also a prolific writer and a regular contributor to 'The Nineteenth Century and After', the famous monthly review whose policy was to register 'disbelief in contemporary fallacies and to present objective, unbiased articles on home and foreign affairs. It was the type of serious publication we could do with today.

In addition to articles on economic and historical subjects, Frederick Veale wrote 'Lives of Lenin' [1932] and 'Frederick the Great' [1935], but it was after the Second World War that he really showed what he was made of. At a time when the victors were baying for blood (at Tehran, when Churchill handed Stalin a 'Sword of Honour', Stalin demanded that Churchill and Roosevelt agree that 50,000 German officers should be summarily shot) Frederick Veale published a book entitled 'Advance to Barbarism' in which he pointed out that an appalling precedent the verdicts of the International Military Tribunal had created. For their judgements meant that in any future war the Admirals, Generals and Air Marshals of a defeated side could expect to be condemned to death for obeying the orders of their government. This was also the view of Field Marshal Viscount Montgomery.

The dangers of such 'Victors Justice' and of an interpretation of International Law that meant that a tribunal could not be challenged by counsel, defendants or prosecution, and that its judgement was final and not subject to appeal, was immediately apparent to Dr. William R Inge, the famous 'Gloomy Dean' of St. Paul's who readily contributed an introduction to this book.

In 1956, Frederick Veale published 'Crimes Discreetly

Much Honey among the Vitriol

Evidently Mosley is now considered a likely subject for GCE 'A' Level. This at least is the suggestion stated on the cover of a masterly 300-page hardback book published last year by Manchester University Press: Illusions of Grandeur - Mosley, Fascism & British Society 1931-1981 by D.S. Lewis (£29.95).

Although the author has not unearthed any new discoveries from his extensive research, his analysis is remarkably fresh. He starts by stating that the BU's threat to the establishment lay 'in the potential appeal of its populist political stance which incorporated ideological currents from both left and right...to establish a government of national consensus'. He takes the Leftist definition of fascists heavily to task, ridiculing the view that they were 'thugs financed by...the big capitalist' for this fails to acknowledge them as 'fired by the genuine protest of those whom the left had failed to attract.'

'the Authoritarian Centre'

Lewis sees three categories of fascist. First, there were the traditionalists who despised modernity and longed to return to a more secure past. Then there were those who perceived BU as 'a form of socialism made viable by its national

context'. However, the true ideology was understood only by a third category: the 'genuine fascists' who sought to rise above class warfare 'through mediation and enforced synthesis.' Although a movement of the centre, he sees fascism as the mirror-image of liberalism. the Authoritarian Centre. The attempt to synthesise countless opposites requires constant emotional appeal to close ranks through national unity and loyalty to the Leader.

BOOK REVIEW

Blackshirt East End growth impressive

The author acknowledges that BU's growth in East London was impressive for it had 'established itself strongly by 1936 and had built...mass support.' This was the result of BU recognition of 'social and economic deprivation, its overcrowding, its squalor and neglect'. A fair attempt is made to analyse the real causes of racial tensions which will earn the book no friends among today's 'Race Relations Industry'.

World War II - Mosley was Right

It is on the BU's peace campaign that Lewis really lets the cat out of the bag. He admits 'the territorial ambitions of

Hitler lay principally to the east'. Mosley proposed British Empire isolationism 'although he did also propose treaties with France and the USA just in case Hitler proved untrustworthy'. The chapter concludes that Mosley's

proposals for peace were rational, and, to varying degrees, valid...he grasped correctly the way in which war would alter the world, and Britain's place within it, irrevocably'. There are harsh words for Home Secretary Herbert Morrison on 188: 126 detainees were held in prison 'in direct contradiction to the specific advice of the committee which had examined them.... Morrison's judgement was coloured by his loathing of the BUF and by a bond of hatred...matured poisonously for almost two decades'. BU's 'pre war foreign policy.... had never involved disloyalty to Britain or subservience to foreign fascist influences' so there could be no other explanation.

If you think all this seems too good to be true, you would be right. After showing clear insight, Lewis comes to conclusions that contradicts what he has written before. He states that the Corporate State 'would in all likelihood have amounted to...a reactionary capitalist dictatorship'. And there are charges of sexism, racism, & brutality.

But at least there is much honey among the vitriol.

GORDON BECKWELL

Veiled, a devastating exposure of the Stalin Myth, the ghastly Katyn Massacre, which the Russians tried to pin on the Germans, the murder of Mussolini, the crimes of Dr. Petiot, and the unjust treatment of Admiral Raeder and other German officers - Raeder's real crime being that he had captured Norway before the British.

The foreword to this book was contributed by no less a person than Lord Hankey, who had been Secretary to the Imperial War Cabinet in the First World War, Organiser of the 1919 Peace Conference, and a Minister in the War Cabinet in 1939 and 1940. In 1950, Lord Hankey had himself

criticised the 'novel legal proposition that an accuser is a fit person to act as judge of his own charges' in a book entitled 'POLITICS: Trials and Errors'.

After June 1941 the successful prosecution of the war, argued Veale, necessitated the creation of convenient fictions, and 'the most important of these fictions concerned the character of Joe Stalin.' Thus rose the Stalin Myth.

The author had a very telling turn of phrase, exemplified by the following quotation from page 21 of Crimes Discreetly Veiled.

'When in 1941 Hitler invaded Russia, the view that Communism was only liberalism in

a hurry had long been the accepted view of the English-speaking intelligentsia. When urged to accept this view by the politicians, the man-in-the-street naturally found little difficulty with complying. Once accepted, it was but a short step to agreeing that Stalin was really only a sort of Georgian counterpart of Mr. Gladstone'

It is comforting to know that his two important books are still in print in the United States and also available in Britain.

We salute our old comrade - a respected lawyer and a brave and honest searcher after historical truth and justice. **PETER MARCY**

The Commemoration Dinner



OSWALD MOSLEY The Twentieth Century's Legacy to Eternity

From all over Britain they came, from mainland Europe, from the United States. And when they could not come they sent their tributes to the largest gathering ever assembled to commemorate Oswald Mosley. From out of the past came old British Union District Leaders, sharing their homage with the younger generations who were unborn when they were in the van of Mosley's fight.

Dan Harmston, who last year regained the Red Rose for England from Kinnock's unworthy grasp, and was glad to see so many in evidence, reminded us that the Rose should also be worn on November 16, Oswald Mosley Day. Big Dan had worn his to work in Smithfield Market and made sure all who asked was told the reason why. The news spread and before long one colleague was convinced he had heard it on his car radio that morning!

Lady Mosley told of the success of her complaint to the Press Council on distortions of truth about O.M. in the national press. The recent re-showing of John Freeman's 1960s interviews 'Face to Face' revived her memories of the 34-year BBC ban on her husband. Freeman had wanted to include O.M. but later admitted: "We weren't allowed". "This was the democracy that hundreds of young British Union servicemen died to defend in the Brother's War", said Lady Mosley.

Ronald Creasy said that all who answered Sir Oswald's call must also win the battle within themselves while gaining the minds of others. Only then could the creative instrument be built wherein generations to come will find their salvation and peace.

'Comrade's contributor from mainland Europe, "Rifleman", spoke of the Cause destined to have an even greater future than its already illustrious past. In a heartfelt call to action he called for all present to spare no effort in the enlightenment of others: a solemn responsibility we all carried because we alone were privileged to have learnt the truth from O.M.

Martin Maloney, making his maiden speech for POM, spoke

the facade of Thatcherite success that could not hide the misery of millions still workless and 80,000 classified as homeless in London. But it was hyper-inflation, which by its nature would be felt by all, that would prove the catalyst of great change. "There is today a political vacuum which cannot last. We will fill it."

Michael Quill reported on the growing interest in academic circles in Mosley's Movement's and gave POM's undertaking to give all help possible to researchers. A new generation was looking for answers, no longer satisfied with the naive Leftist or Liberal dogma which for years has sufficed as a true history of Mosley's challenge.

John Christian, editor of Comrade, warmly introduced old comrades "with us for the first time" including four British Union District Leaders symbolic of the real truth of British Union's past and the Second War's 'Falsehood in Wartime'.

Ted Fowler, D/L Bromley and Cyril Plaskett, D/L N/East Bethnal Green after the legendary Mick Clarke. Both were imprisoned without charge or trial in the last war.

In the same war, Ron Webb, D/L Watford was losing an eye fighting in Normandy in the 6th Airborne Division, and the D/L Norwood, who in this report shall be nameless, was surviving two tours of operations as air-gunner in the RAF, receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross.

In his toast to Absent Friends he explained why Mosley's obituary would never appear in Comrade. "because for us Mosley is still alive. He lives within all of us. Looking across this room with eyes half-closed I can see him rising to speak. As the sense sharpens I see us gathering



Bouquet for Lady Mosley from POM, wife of old comrade Eric Simpkins who we lost last year

around him after some great meeting or outnumbered fight and hear that deep strengthening 'BROTHER BLACKSHIRTS', willing us to fight on, whatever the odds".

We cannot say precisely how the fruits of our endeavours will unfold. But for all those present, one thing was clear.

At the time of his physical passing eight years ago, none of the little men of the establishment, the hacks of Fleet Street and Westminster, ever envious of greatness, could have believed that on this day, the flame he lit in 1932 would still so brightly burn.

JEREMY WALKER

And some afterthought....

Wake Up Britain!

My wife and I greatly enjoyed the Commemoration Dinner and I could not help thinking during the excellent speeches how far we in Great Britain have sunk since the election campaign in 1959 when Mosley warned us that if the influx of immigrants into this country was not stopped by returning him to Parliament, it would be too late. How right he was!

How far we have sunk in thirty years. We thought that things were bad then...look at us now! Whole boroughs have been totally transformed so that they now resemble Bombay or Calcutta. In some schools it is hard to find a white pupil. 'Top of the Pops' is dominated by Blacks. Nearly every actor seems to be 'having it off' with a member of a different race; or the same sex; or both. Everyone in the public eye is on speed; grass, drink, or sniffing 'coke'. You cannot, it appears, buy a newspaper or packet of sweets without encountering a dusky face. Television newscasters are from the minority races in far greater proportion than their national percentage. The lists are endless!

Yet what are we doing. There we were dining; some one hundred and thirty, many of us old campaigners who, though we may be getting on in years can still wage a propaganda war against what we know to be wrong.

After Mosley fought for Britain till his last breath. We should surely be doing the same. After all we can't live for ever and we have our children and the future generations to think of. How we can look around the Britain of today without nausea from a sense of great tragedy I cannot think.

See you at the next 'do'

Peter Dawson

Kasez

Compliments to all concerned for organising a first class Commemoration Dinner. And for "Comrade", as good as I have come to expect.

The aim of "Comrade" is to teach the truth and expose the greatest lie - that the followers and believers of the philosophies of Sir Oswald Mosley were traitors to their Country.

I feel that "Comrade" has gone a long way towards this aim and the time has come to spread the word to a much larger public. I travel a great deal in Europe and everywhere I go I speak openly and unashamedly of my convictions and my dream of a New Europe based on the ideas expounded by O.M., and everywhere I meet with agreement.

"We love our countries, but we must extend that love; the ideal and the practical alike now compel it. The extension of patriotism: that is the hope. The new patriotism will extend to embrace all of like kind, but will not destroy the value of its kind by seeking the unnatural mingling of the old internationalism."

Thus wrote Mosley in 1947 and this holds good today. I ask all those who love their country to read Chapter 23 of "MY LIFE" and acquaint themselves thoroughly with it.

Then go out and expounds these ideas to all and sundry.

If everyone who attended the Commemoration Dinner spoke to 50 people throughout the ensuing year I am sure that a flame would be lit in the hearts of many of our British people and perhaps we would see once again a GREAT Britain.

Let us make Mosley's Commemoration Dinner a rallying point for a New Age!

Rifleman

Germany

LADY MOSLEY IN DUBLIN

INVITED to debate the motion "That Liberty rests upon the Rule of Law" at Dublin's Trinity College Historical Society in January, Lady Mosley in a 30 minute speech briefly touched on every aspect of Mosley's career.

Strictly speaking there was no debate as she and her opponent, the Earl of Longford, agreed that liberty does rest upon the rule of law.

An absorbed audience heard Lady Mosley tell of Mosley's economic policy in the thirties, resting on the fact that Britain then possessed a world-wide Empire, containing everything necessary to ensure that all its inhabitants could be prosperous, well-fed and contented. Politicians had so mismanaged our affairs that in Britain itself millions were unemployed, appalling slums, and even widespread hunger.

Mosley said "Mind Britain's Business" and he vigorously opposed entanglement in the of continental Europe resulting from the Treaty of Versailles after the first world war. When Britain declared war on Germany in 1939, he campaigned all through the "phoney war" months for a negotiated peace, since neither Britain or Empire had been attacked. It was a perfectly legal action; had it not been he

would have remained silent. He was convinced that even if we won, we should lose the Empire.

He and nearly a thousand of his adherents were arrested and imprisoned in vile conditions for years. Was this liberty? Was this the rule of law? No. It was the result of an Order in Council made one evening in May 1940 and implemented the next morning. There was no charge, as no law had been broken, and there was no trial.

Britain could hardly have chosen a worse pretext for going to war than Poland, so swollen by Versailles that 31% of its inhabitants were not Poles.

The result of the terrible six years of war was, as he foresaw, the loss of our Empire. His new policy was a truly united Europe. He campaigned and worked for this for 35 years, from 1945 until his death in 1980. This great ideal is now becoming a reality.

HESS:

'Comrade' Supplied Motive

CLAIMS by COMRADE, [April/May 1987] that Rudolf Hess was murdered is receiving recognition in a wide area of independent and official investigations.

Scotland Yard's Serious Crimes Squad have opened investigations and are to report to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Believed to be under strong pressure from the Foreign Office, it is understood they are having problems obtaining the co-operation of official departments such as the Army, civilian staff at the former Spandau Jail, and the American Guard who were posted to Guam in the Pacific almost before Hess was cold.

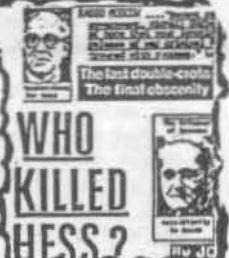
One who as we go to press had not been interviewed is Hess's nurse Abdallah Melaoui who has sworn a statement and whose recent BBC TV interview has created some problems for the intended official 'whitewash'.

Hess's nurse day and night for 5 years, Melaoui knew him intimately and he confirmed one aspect of COMRADE's story which had roused scepticism: that Gorbachev was going to release him and that Hess knew it. "Now they are going to kill me" he told his nurse. He knew there

were those who could never permit him to tell the full facts of his 1941 'Peace' flight to Britain and he did not mean the Russians.

Melaoui also confirmed COMRADE's story of the 'two strangers of Spandau Prison'. "Two men wearing American uniform. Why were they there?". His most interesting information: forty minutes after the alleged suicide, the electric flex with which Hess had 'strangled himself' was still hanging on the wall in its normal place and end in the lamp and the other in its socket.

It is now generally accepted that it is British governments that are responsible for Hess's long obscene incarceration and death, and that this greatest of cover-ups will last until 2017 when the official papers are released.



OBITUARY

LILY HAMM

IT is with sorrow that we hear of the death on Christmas Eve of LILY HAMM, one of Clements family of members of British Union's Bethnal Green Branch.



After the War she was an active member of Union Movement's Shoreditch Branch and Lily will also be remembered for the many hours of voluntary work undertaken in the earlier years of Union Movement at NHQ in in Vauxhall Bridge Road.

JOE DOCWRA

Another old comrade we learn died last year, on 26 August, JOE DOCWRA, was a member of Hackney Branch, British Union.

In 1940/45 he served in the Merchant Navy and crewed many convoys the conditions of which it is believed led to his blindness for many years in the later years of his life.

After the war he was active in the early days of Union Movement and occasionally spoke in East London. We recall he was a 'mate' of Bobby Pipkin who later emigrated to Australia.

We extend our condolences to Joe's wife, Dolly.

BILL EATON

As we go to press we hear of the death on 5 February of BILL EATON, 77, one of the few members of British Union to hold the Gold Distinction, awarded for 'service and devotion to the Cause'.

District Leader of Lancaster Branch, he was later D/Inspector North Lancashire & Westmorland and Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for Burnley.

1940 brought his political detention under 188 where he spent some of his time lecturing fellow members on economics.

In later years he was for a number of years Chairman of the Governor's Committee of Lancaster Grammar School, where he had been a pupil.

Although predeceased by Mrs. Eaton, Bill died a few days before the 50th anniversary of his wedding as the war clouds gathered in 1939.

What a hope! We wager that like the files of Britain's political prisoners, they have already been destroyed.

Who or what is being covered up is speculated. Someone at the top they say. Who was at the very top?

Churchill.

OLD COMRADES



In Memoriam

"Hark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages,
Britain listens and rejoices,
Gazing on Tradition's pages...."

ANDREWS, E.J.D.: Canterbury BU: 20 February 1940

AVERY, Capt. E.F. 'Bill': Southampton BU & London UM: At 93, the oldest Chelsea Pensioner: February 1976

BECKETT, Joe: British & Empire Heavyweight Boxing Champ. 1919-23: BU, wartime 188 political prisoner: Foundation member Union Movement. March 1965

CAPLETON, L. 'Cape': BU D/L Croydon: Led Branch to win Action Sales Cup: Later D/Inspector: 188 political prisoner: Bristol Union Movement. March 1961

CLAYTON, Charlie: East London BU & UM Drum Corps: popular beater of 'big drum'. 17 March 1978

DONOVAN, J.E.: seaman member Limehouse BU: "Action" contributor 'Don Beresford' February 1938

EATON, Harry: East London BU & UM: February 1976

FERRIS, Don: Nottingham BU: 188 political prisoner: March 1952

FULLER, Maj-Gen J.F.C. CB CBE DSO: tank expert, military thinker and writer: organised British tank forces World War I: member and Prospective Parliamentary Candidate Westminster St. Georges British Union. 10 February 1966

HAMILTON, Sir Archibald: popular BU member at Selsey Blackshirt Camps. March 1939

HOOKE, Bill: Shoreditch Union Movement. March 1949

ILETT, A.E.: BU Prospective Parliamentary Candidate Kings Lynn & 188 political prisoner. March 1974

STEELE, Capt. C.H.: BU Parliamentary Candidate Guildford: After injury from brick on Blackshirt march. February 1939

WONFER, James H: Sgt. 78 Canadian Bt 1914-18: BU D/L Dorset North: 188 political prisoner 1940: speaker Wessex Branch UM. March 1953

BILL BRAY

Former District Treasurer of British Union's Birmingham Central Branch, and later District Leader of the Handsworth Branch, and 188 political prisoner, BILL BRAY, 73, died on 3rd December last.

Bill's son Michael would like to hear from any of his old comrades that might be alive, to recount their memories of their time in British Union. Please write c/o COMRADE.

British Union Day

MAY-DAY BUFFET SUPPER SATURDAY MAY 6TH 1989

COMRADE

NO.18 APRIL/MAY 1989

"The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow"



WHO NOW SPEAKS for the indigenous British, whose major crime is the belief in that basic law of nature - the perpetuation of one's own kind

Yesterday's patriots. Today's 'rascists'.

1939 AS THEN — AS NOW 1989

CONSPIRACY OF SILENCE

A QUESTION IN THE HOUSE OF COMMONS half a century ago is of importance today, not only for appraisal of Mosley and British Union's place in the history of the 1930s, but because the same charge can be made in relation to what many believe to be the most serious of Britain's problems in her long history.

During a debate on the Press in 1939, Lt.Col.J.T.C.Moore Brabazon drew attention to "an arrangement or conspiracy exists within our Press" not to mention Mosley or British Union.

Earl Winterton, replying for the Government, confessed a measure of agreement and wondered whether the questions would "be reported in the Press and whether there will be an answer to it in the Press".

For *The Times* alone reported the question and were joined by the *Daily Telegraph* and the *Manchester Guardian* in reporting Earl Winterton's challenge to the press.

All other papers ignored it completely. They could not reply to the challenge for the very good reason that a conspiracy existed.

"When a true genius appears

in the world, you may know him by this sign, that the dunces are all in confederacy against him" said Jonathan Swift.

Such a man was Mosley, who sickened by the corruption of the party political game and the inability of the 'talking shop' to ease the suffering and want in masses of our people, started his new cleansing Movement "to give life to the nation that we love".

From this challenge to the comfortable establishment came the shameful union of politicians and press, first with the barrage of lies then the conspiracy of silence, intended to block Mosley's road to power, a conspiracy controlled by powerful vested interests,

✶ Air pioneer Lt.Col.Moore Brabazon - he held aviator's certificate No.1, and had been a racing motorist and was a bob-sleigh record holder. He was one of the few fearless outspoken MPs in the 1939 House of Commons, as was Lord Winterton who had held a number of government posts. After the war he became Father of the House.

international moneylenders and other string-pulling faceless ones whose interests were basically diametrically opposed to the true national interests of Britain.

That a 'conspiracy of silence' might be a "greater betrayal of truth than outright lies" as suggested by writer W.J.West in a book reviewed in this issue, is an observation that those concerned about the future of the homogeneous peoples of these islands disregard to their peril.

There is much blather in the media on freedom of information, freedom of the press, and 'the peoples right to know'.

Cant and humbug. Have not they over three decades exercised censorship - a negation of 'the peoples right to know' - in reporting and debating the true picture of the results of mass immigration from the 'Third World' whilst it built up to an unmanageable problem, menacing the values and very identity of that long matured sublime creation of peoples born out of the European tribe?

At first voluntarily, a complete conspiracy of silence now exists, legalised by political action of the Race Relations Acts.

Who now speaks for the indigenous British whose major crime is the belief in that basic law of nature - the perpetuation of one's own kind, but find themselves becoming second class citizens in the land of their forefathers. Yesterday's patriots. Today's 'racists'.

As in the 1930s. Truth betrayed. And the British people.

PROPHETIC TRUTH

"ONE may dislike Sir Oswald Mosley. But a Press which ignores meetings at which audiences amount to many, many thousands, at a time and are moved to great enthusiasm, cannot profess to be a representative Press. And when knows how much matters of greater importance are deliberately hidden, one has still less confidence in the British Press."

The great danger of such suppression of truth, and suggestion of falsehood, is that we may be driven into a war in which we are not concerned, and in the interests of alien political movements and international finance."

The Aeroplane: March 29 1939



Lt-Col.
Moore-Brabazon

What They Said



Earl Winterton

Extract from speech by Lieut.-Colonel J. T. C. Moore-Brabazon in the House of Commons, February 15, 1939.

"... Oswald Mosley, although he is the leader of a political party, is not mentioned at all. That must be because some form of arrangement and conspiracy exists within our Press. If that is so, we have not a free Press, and that state of affairs should be altered." (Hansard, col. 1834.)

Earl Winterton later in the same debate, said:—

"But there are one or two curious features of British Press news in recent years which raise a point never raised in this House before, so far as I am aware. The matter was referred to also by the Hon. Gentleman opposite."

He asked why it was that the leader of a certain movement with which no one is in agreement in this House, I think, happens to have meetings, which I understand are fully attended and crowded, but who never has a report of his speeches in any of the London or Provincial Press. He asked what the explanation was.

He will agree that it is not my duty to give an explanation, because I do not know it and because it has nothing to do with the Government; but merely as a matter of interest, I also say, speaking as an old Member of this House and not as a Minister, that I wonder what the explanation is.

I wonder, further, whether the question asked by the Hon. Member and by me will be reported in the Press and whether there will be any answer to it in the Press. I have not the slightest idea what the reason is. (Hansard, 1860/61.)

Whether a conspiracy to avoid unwelcome reality is a greater betrayal of truth than outright lies of the kind that filled the air abroad on all sides is a difficult question. Suppression of the truth can only lead to attempts to get round the ban: on the left Burgess and his circle infiltrated their views on the BBC. A right-wing Party, on the other hand, attempted to set up its own broadcasting system abroad which led, as we shall see, to the suppression of a political party in Britain for the first time in her history.

— W.J. West

Originally reviewed by Gordon Beckwell in our March issue last year, **"TRUTH BETRAYED"** by W.J. West is now published in paperback, [Duckworth £8.95]

Here are some further revealing passages chosen by **PETER MACEY** who believes this to be one of the most important examples of Revisionist scholarship to be published since 1945.

CHURCHILL AND MOSLEY

● "Among those listening to King George V as he broadcast his opening remarks at the Five Power Naval Conference in 1930 were two men who were to have important, but starkly contrasted careers over the next decade. One, Sir Oswald Mosley, was a junior minister in the Government of the day; the other, Winston Churchill, was seen as a figure with a great past but uncertain future, isolated from the main stream of his party's political thought. By the end of the decade Mosley had become the leader of a party of his own creation, the British Union, and was fighting a rear-guard action to bring about peace before the 'phoney war' that followed Germany's occupation of Poland had a chance to deteriorate into a greater conflict. Churchill on the other hand, was a member of the War Cabinet and as actively engaged in the nation's affairs as he had been in the First World War. A few months later Churchill was to authorize the detention of people considered a threat to the safety of the realm. One of the principle people affected was Mosley, who was detained without trial, his party abolished and its senior members interned with him. [P. 9-10]

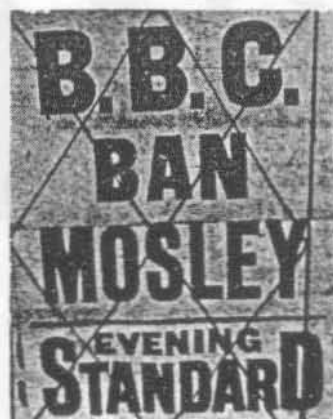
THE BBC

● "After some years passed, Mosley's case for a broadcast became more pressing. It was clearly absurd that the political philosophy which had been adapted by one of Britain's allies during World War 1

Britain between the wars

A Press and Parliament

FALSEHOOD INCORPORATED



February 1939....For once they got it right

could not be discussed in any way in Britain." [P. 15]

[At last in 1935 Mosley was asked to broadcast in an educational series entitled "The Citizen and His Government"]

● "The time for action had obviously come. But what kind of action was open to the Foreign Office? Here was an educational programme of great scope already past the contract stage for which all the preliminary work had been done. The central worry was Mosley and the use he might make of the opportunity, and it was he who bore the brunt of the Government's attack" [P. 17]

● "Sir Robert Vansittart, Permanent Head of the

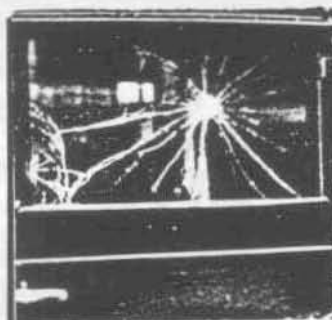
Foreign Office "hoped that question would resolve itself into the undesirability of Sir Oswald Mosley speaking. Should it be decided that Mosley should not speak then there would be no need to inform the public that it was because of Mosley...." [P. 19]

● "Mosley was kept of the air and the myth of the BBC's independence was preserved intact." [P. 20]

OLYMPIA AND HULL

● "Tommy Moran, a Mosley supporter, writing to John Beckett, remarked: 'Hull last Sunday was a revelation, ten thousand reds throwing stones, bottles, using iron bars, pieces of lead, one rat had a sickle with the handle painted red'.... Inspection of police reports in the Public Record Office bears out this account. Mosley's behaviour under such circumstances played a large part in creating his devoted following. In the same letter Moran wrote: 'The Leader was superb, if we loved him in the past his courage last Sunday made us his for life.' These events formed the true background to events such as Olympia." [P. 21]

● "The BBC and its staff, in common with most of the British intelligentsia, took



THE HULL MEETING in September 1936. A bullet is fired at Mosley's car

an essentially communist line at the time, the reason why the more sinister activities of Burgess and his circle remained unremarked. [P. 40]



Oswald Mosley examining weapons taken from the communists at Olympia

MOSLEY'S "RADIO LUXEMBOURG"

● "...a transmitter on Sark would have given strong coverage over the whole of southern England.... It became clear that, from a legal point of view, there would be no possibility of interference from the British Government or the BBC, and Mosley set up a company with a contract to broadcast from Sark." [P. 123]

[Mosley's brilliant engineer, Peter Eckersley, invented a system whereby radio messages could be sent through the electricity mains supply and received on a special set. It would have made jamming impossible]

● "Had the project succeeded, Mosley could at any time have gained access to a transmitter chain that would have given him immediate entry to every home in the Kingdom with a mains



A message to Britain in the late 1930s

FALSEHOOD INC.

electricity supply, a facility which would have been extremely useful to him in May 1940." [P.125]

MOSLEY'S ARREST AND 18B

It was the first time a political leader in Britain had been arrested and detained without trial on the grounds that he was leader of a political party...When the operation was complete, more than 1500 men and women had been detained. Large numbers were allowed to remain at liberty, on the tacit understanding with the local police that they enlist in the armed forces

immediately. A few went underground..... The most careful instructions were given to ensure that no serving Officer of the British Army was brought to prison in uniform. If they were in uniform when arrested they were to be taken first to their homes and obliged to put on civilian clothing, by force if necessary. Considerable difficulty arose when it was found in practice that the legality of detaining an Officer serving under the Crown who was not liable to Court Martial for any offence known to Army regulations and, indeed, when it was not intended to prosecute for any offence was not clear. The matter was never resolved satisfactorily, but

the officers involved were detained in Brixton Prison, from where they made a collective appeal to the War Office against the dishonour which had been brought upon their regiments." [P.215-6]

"It was stated clearly that the [Appeals] Committee alone and that, while the detainee had no legal representation, he could be assured that the committee was independent of the authorities...the reality was that the committee always had sitting with it an MI5 officer." [P.219]

★Despite these "careful instructions", numerous Army, Navy and RAF officers WERE taken to prison in uniform — as many COMRADE readers can confirm. Ed.



MOSLEY'S FIGHT FOR PEACE

A British Union message seen all over Britain in the late 1930s as the politicians and other vested interests seemed prepared to sacrifice British interests in foreign quarrels

THOUGHTS THAT

By GORDON BECKWELL

COME IN A

A Column of Forward Looking personal views on Mosley Thought

WHITE LIES AND BLACK FALSEHOOD

MORE NONSENSE is talked about South Africa than almost any other subject.

When the intellectual featherweights of liberal thought turn to their favourite topic, the word 'Freedom' flies thick and fast. 'Freedom', or the lack of it for Blacks, is where the problem's at. And that's the beginning and the end of it for minds that prefer the comfort of simple catchwords to the complexities of Realpolitik. So let us shelve the niceties of wishful thinking and state the obvious, harsh though it may seem.

There is no question of 'Freedom' for the Black peoples of South Africa. They won't get it from the South African government who know it would mean the end of European civilisation in the Republic. And they certainly

won't get it from the ANC who are the only alternative. Where else in Africa is it otherwise? Freedom from hunger, bad housing and medical neglect: yes. The Blacks are fifty-fold better off in these respects than their unfortunate cousins in the bankrupt dictatorships of the north. They are even gaining real self-rule in their own communities. But the Afrikaner will never submit to the myth of progress by head counting.

FALSE FLAMES OF REVOLUTION:

THE FIERY NECKLACE

THE YOUNG BLACKS of the ANC impose their will with the flaming necklace and ice cold emotion. Its victims are always Black. An elderly Zulu enters a shop to buy food for his family. Soon the call comes from the ANC's youth: 'You know you are forbidden to buy from Whites. Present yourself in one week at the appointed place.'

Seven days to set affairs in order, seven days to think of the revolting end to come: hands tied, the petrol-soaked tyre around his neck, the searing flame. No choice about turning up or his family must take his place. An example to others: that's why the victims are always Black.

And those who seek to advance worn-out creeds with worn-out tyres, these are the very people into whose tender care the shrill Black prelates and false voices of white conscience would deliver all the many races of South Africa for Freedom's sake.

THE REAL BATTLE

THE REAL STRUGGLE is not about 'Freedom' at all. Brezhnev let it slip about 15 years ago when he said Soviet Foreign Policy for the last quarter of the twentieth century was to take the Energy Storehouse and the Mineral Storehouse of the West. That means the Middle East and southern Africa. There are at least 6 vital minerals that can only be found in useful quantities in South Africa and the Soviet Bloc. If the former falls to Marxism, the latter will hold a monopoly over the West. Steel production, for example, would entirely cease without one of these mineral catalysts. The U.S. and British

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

"What though we ourselves be slain,
This, our Faith can never die!"

AUSTIN, Sgt. W.G. 'Bill': 1st Bn KRRC: Liverpool British Union: 26: killed in action Tunisia: 10 May 1943: Lies in Medjer-el-Bab War Cemetery, Tunisia.

AYRES, Pte. Francis 'Nipper': 6th Bn Green Howards: Limehouse British Union: 20: killed in action near Dunkirk 25 May 1940: Lies Oye-Plage Communal Cemetery, France.

BREMER, Cpl. A.A. J: 2nd Bn Black Watch: Dorset British Union: killed in action Burma 5 April 1944: Name inscribed on Rangoon Memorial

EAST, Lt. Philip: 5th Bn Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders: Leytonstone British Union: 26: killed in action Tunisia 24 April 1943: Lies in Medjer-el-Bab War Cemetery, Tunisia.

FITCH, Sq/Ldr. R.L.J. DFC: RPF: Clapham Brit. Union 26: killed in flying ops Norfolk 21 May 1945 Buried St. Nicholas Churchyard Kelvedon Hatch, Essex.



GILL, Sgt. Pil. B.W. RAF VR killed in flying accident No. 3 Glider Train-School 28 May 1943 after release from 18B political imprisonment. Age 22 he was Leeds British Union where he now lies in a collective grave at Harehills Cemetery.

IRVINE, Pte. R: 1/5 Bn Queens Royal Regt: 21: Shoreditch British Union killed in action near Dunkirk 28 May 1940: Lies Strazeele Communal Cemetery, France.

MITFORD, Maj. The Hon. Tom: KRRC: NHQ Branch British Union: brother of Lady Mosley: killed in action: age 36 Burma 4 April 1945. He is buried at Taunggyan War Cemetery, Rangoon.



governments know this perfectly well: that is why their sanctions will always lack teeth.

Many South Africans have much to answer for concerning their attitudes to Black people.

But let us hope the noble Zulu and proud Bantu escape the triumph of the African township's young ANC Blacks to live in even greater dignity and plenty.

1939

As seen by
Lady
Mosley

Reprinted from
The Weekly Guardian
by kind permission of
Lady Mosley and The Guardian

Hitler told her over lunch he'd hoped for friendship with Britain. The next month war broke out and her sister, Unity, shot herself. Diana Mosley writes of her last year of freedom before imprisonment with her husband, Oswald — and eventual exile

RIGHT: Mosley reviewing his Blackshirts — he campaigned for Britain to "Mind Britain's Business" LEFT: The ill-fated Unity Mitford in Munich



A prelude

AT THE beginning of 1939 I was recovering from a severe haemorrhage at the birth of my third son a month before. Mosley and I spent the new year at Wootton in Staffordshire with my brother Tom Mitford, my two little boys and the new baby.

The Munich agreement, four months old, seemed fragile. Much of the press and many politicians deplored the decision to allow the Sudeten Germans to join Austria and Germany, which for 20 years they had desired to do. Czechoslovakia became an object of civil war. Chamberlain's description of it as a faraway country of which we knew little was extraordinarily apt.

It was an artificial nation, created in 1919, and the Czechs were a majority detested by the Slovaks and other minorities. But in a democracy the majority rules. Bohemia was an area where great powers clashed. Historians knew this, but to most people it appeared to be a small country threatened by a bullying neighbour.

The war party in England, led by Churchill, ardently desired to fight Germany. It included most of the Left who, since 1919, had inveighed against the peace treaties: making a sharp U-turn, they now became the impassioned advocates of the Versailles Europe.

I stayed in the country and recovered. The newspapers became daily angrier and more unrealistic. Britain and France should have fought Germany at the time of Munich. With the Czechs we could have won with ease, according to these armchair warriors. "Hitler sees the red light" was a recurring headline.

In March Czechoslovakia exploded. Tiso, the Slovak leader, went to Berlin and invited Hitler to restore order. Hitler motored to Prague almost alone, and climbed the stairs of the Hradshin Castle, abandoned by the Czechs. He looked out of the window at the city below: "I had no idea Prague was so beautiful," he said.

A shriek of rage went up — Hitler had broken his word, having told Chamberlain he had no territorial claims except where there were Germans.

Weeks after Czechoslovakia, Chamberlain gave Poland a guarantee that if Hitler attempted to change its status quo by force, Britain would support Poland. It was a blank cheque which bounced: the brave but volatile Poles no longer bargained seriously with the Germans about the anomalies. They saw themselves, backed by the might of Britain and France, with their cavalry riding into a conquered Berlin.

Mosley campaigned for peace and for Britain to "Mind Britain's Business". Just emerging from slump and ruinous unemployment, there was plenty to do in our country and our empire without becoming embroiled in foreign quarrels. He had been the first politician (long before Churchill) to demand re-armament for Britain. "We cannot be unarmed in an armed world," he said. Re-armament was speeded up after Munich. He urged strength with peace, unless we were attacked.

The Poles became more intransigent, the situation more dangerous. In July, Mosley addressed a meeting of 20,000 people at Earl's Court; they cheered his policy.

In early August, my sister Unity

and I went to Bayreuth for the Festival. We lunched with Hitler at the house in the park at Wahnfried. He said he wished to see us alone, so, after luncheon, we went with him to his sitting room. He told us war was certain, Britain determined to fight. Although, since the Polish guarantee, war had seemed very possible, this confirmation from Hitler gave me a feeling of deep despair. Europe wrecked, all those we loved killed — the prospect was too appalling to contemplate.

I knew my sister would die. She said she could not survive to see England and Germany tear each other to pieces. Private grief, and despair for our beautiful continent, the whole misery of it flashed through my mind as I watched Hitler's serious face. "I had hoped for friendship with England," he said. I told him I thought my husband would continue to speak for peace as long as it was legal to do so.



Lady Mosley ... a period of recovery PHOTOGRAPH JANE BOWN



PHOTOGRAPH TOPHAM PICTURE LIBRARY



PHOTOGRAPH CENTRAL PH

to tragedy

"If he does," said Hitler, "he may be shot, like Jaurès in 1914."

That evening, after Gotterdammerung, he came out on the balcony and saluted the adoring crowd. I never saw him again.

Nor did I ever see Unity again, not the Unity of those days. She was the best of companions, intelligent, original, full of life and energy. Unfortunately, she was also fearless.

I went straight home to England and it was to be 10 years before I once again crossed the Channel. Luckily, we are unable to see the future.

The German-Soviet pact was signed, Hitler's ultimatum was rejected by the Poles, on September 1 he marched from the west, Russia from the east: as often before in its history, Poland was divided. Britain and France declared war on the 3rd. Mosley and I listened to Chamberlain, and the air-raid sirens wailed.

We went on to our balcony by the river at Grosvenor Road and scanned the empty blue skies. Members of Parliament trooped into their air-raid shelter and out again. Presumably the siren-blowers had got over-excited.

My thoughts were with Unity. We had had no news of her and one couldn't telephone the enemy country. But, in autumn 1939, there were plenty of foreign journalists in Germany from neutral countries, and so no news was, in a way, good news. News of a death travels fast.

The young members of British Union joined the forces, approved by Mosley. My brother, Tom, joined his Territorial regiment, the Queen's Westminster.

Mosley continued his campaign.

He expected to be forbidden to speak. Suppression of free speech was supposed to be one of the evil things we were fighting. He said as long as it was allowed it would be cowardly not to express his deeply-felt conviction that European war would be the end of us as a world power. I was pregnant again, but I often went to hear him speak. Crowds listened quietly. No war-like assassin appeared. There was no heckling.

One Sunday he hired a large theatre, the Stoll. Every seat was taken. It was very moving, as alone on the stage he made an impassioned appeal for peace. The huge audience, in which were many who

Unity had gone to the Englischer Garten in Munich, pressed the gun to her temple and pulled the trigger

had fought in the first war, responded with several minutes of applause. This was during the phoney war, which lasted all winter. Though just as anti-war as my husband — war is the ultimate madness — there was nothing I could personally do about it. I spent part of the time in London with him, part in the country with my baby, waiting for the birth of the next baby.

After many weeks, a Hungarian friend telephoned my father with news of Unity. She had shot her-

self. She was alive, but paralysed in a clinic. She must have had days of agonised despair, up to Chamberlain's declaration of war. At the very time Mosley and I were gazing at the sky after the air-raid alert, she had gone to the Englischer Garten in Munich, sat on a park bench, pressed the gun to her temple, and pulled the trigger.

She would have died, except that she had been discreetly followed by the order of the Munich Gauleiter, Wagner. She had been to see him and left letters with him, for my parents and for Hitler. Realising that she was desperately unhappy and afraid she might do herself an injury, he had her followed at the time of the declaration of war.

When she fell she was immediately picked up and taken to a hospital run by nuns. Although she was unconscious for many weeks, they nevertheless succeeded in keeping her alive. Later she said she wanted to come home, and Hitler sent her in an ambulance train to neutral Switzerland. My mother fetched her; their nightmare journey to England, harassed by journalists, was in January 1940.

Hers was only a half-life, and a few years later Unity died of her wound.

She was the first British casualty of the war, and five-and-a-half years later my brother, killed in Burma, was one of the last.

We went to Wootton for Christmas. There was deep snow and the children skated on the ponds. The birth of my baby, from whom I was parted after a few weeks to be thrown in prison for several years was in April 1940.

1939 had been an amazingly quiet, long-drawn-out prelude to tragedy.

ROLL OF HONOUR

OUR BLACKSHIRT DEAD

HOW THEY DIED: Sgt. Pilot BASIL W. GILL

A former pupil of Keighley Grammar School, Basil Gill was a member of Leeds BRITISH UNION and was 19 when in June 1940 he was detained under the infamous 188 Regulations.

Comrade research finds that on release he took up his duties with RAF Voluntary Reserve and in November 1942 was posted as an instructor to No. 3 Glider Training School at Stoke Orchard Glos.

Six months later whilst piloting a modified Miles Magister trainer with a pupil from the Glider Regiment, he failed to observe high tension cables, struck them, hit a tree and crashed at Alveley, near Bridgenorth. His pupil suffered fractures but Sgt. Gill was killed.

GREETINGS



TO our old Bethnal Green 'battler' **DICKIE BURWOOD** having a double celebration in May. His 83rd birthday on the 12th., but first reunion with old comrades at the MAYDAY BUFFET on the 6th. which will bring back many memories. Here he is on an earlier May Day, flanking OM with the late PETER KEEN on the first Union Movement March in 1948

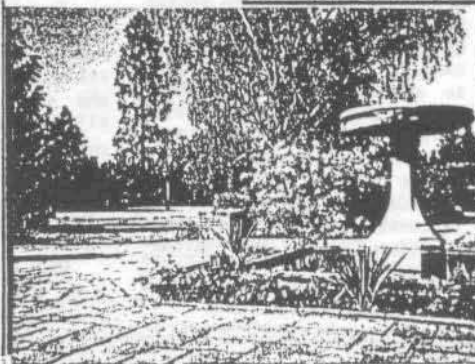
'THE SPIRIT LIVES'

LOOKING BACK

'Raven'

SADLY, the old Catalpa tree under which ALEXANDER RAVEN THOMSON's ashes were scattered seems to have fallen to the Great Hurricane of October 1987. But Spring comes again to the Upper Terrace to the Garden of of Remembrance at Putney Vale.

Gordon Beckwell



BY THEIR EXAMPLE —

MIGHT I add a footnote to the recent notices about **DICK BELLAMY** and **JOHN CHARNLEY**? During the mid-1980s I was engaged in research into the BUF, and had the opportunity to travel the country interviewing former members, amongst whom I met both Dick and John. The research over, I subsequently visited and corresponded with both.

Dick was a remarkable man, eighty years of adventure and struggle had given him a first class education in the 'varsity of life'. He was a gentleman, a gentleman, a man who put you at ease from the moment you shook his firm hand. Here was a man of honour, the best of England. The first time we met he took me for a walk around the little Norfolk village where he and his wife, Hilda, lived. He talked of the history and the wildlife of the area. The Anglo-Saxon church, the oaks described by William Cobbett nearly two hundred years earlier, and the Georgian water mill, all these took on an extra life as I walked with Dick. I shall always remember the happy hours my wife and I spent being entertained by Dick and Hilda - masters of the lost art of conversation. Dick has returned to the very soil of England, but his memory will live on.

I see him now, standing beneath the bright stars of Norfolk: a true and noble Englishman.

John Charnley was a fighter. I met him long after the battles of the inter-war years, but he was still fighting; this time against his dreadful emphysema, and even that enemy found him a tough opponent.

Despite an active life outside politics, it was his experiences with the Mosley movement that were etched into his fiery mind. The details of those struggles were always with him; it might have been yesterday that he was thrown through a plate glass window, and then met Mosley - his Leader. I found him a mine of information, a man with a sense of humour, a man with a fierce will.

Mosley could have had few men more dedicated than John Charnley.

S.M. Cullen

Perth

● Mr. Cullen appealed for former British Union members to assist him in his research project in our first issue of **COMRADE** in 1986. "In my work I am trying to create an accurate history of the day-to-day activities beliefs and hopes of the ordinary member" he wrote. Thanks to his efforts, and many old comrades who co-operated, his successful and important dissertation "The BUF 1932-40: Ideology, Membership and Meetings" resides in the library of Muffield College, Oxford.

LETTERS to the EDITOR

OLD COMRADE

THANK YOU for buffet note enclosed with paper. However, as much as I would like to come, I am unable to travel these days but have enclosed [a Donation] towards your expenses.

It is always a red letter day for me when **COMRADE** comes through the letter box, especially reading the exploits of my old Limehouse District Leader **ARTHUR MASON** with whom I exchange a card and letter at Xmas.

As one gets older and near the end of our life, we realize how right we were. To have lived and known such a wonderful Leader as "MOSLEY". I wouldn't have lived at any other time, even to be young again.

My greatest pleasure in life is to look back on those days, and live them over again in memory.

My thoughts be with you all on May 6th.

Mrs G. Walsh

Clacton

● As Glad Libiter, Mrs. Walsh joined British Union's Limehouse Branch as a non-active member a few weeks before the 'battle of Cable Street' on October 4th, 1936.

She was so incensed at the lies in the following day's newspapers blaming the Black-shirts for the disorder, when she had seen "Jews and Communists roll marbles under the police horses feet and stuff broken glass up their noses" that she immediately became an active member.

After the outbreak of war and the loss to the armed forces of many of the Branch's young active members, she was asked by former Bethnal Green District Leader **Mick Clarke**, now a NHQ officer, to take over as District Leader, her acceptance almost landing her inside a British concentration camp.

For come June 1940 and the police came to arrest her they were unlucky for all they found was an obliterated house, hit by a bomb a week before.

Persistent they called for information at the local cafe run by another East London stalwart, "Aunt Maud" Sutherland who was a wealth of information - to Glad Libiter when she called in for food at 'convenient' moments!

AMERICAN TRIBUTE

IT WAS CERTAINLY a pleasure to be present at the dinner and to see the quality of people who were associated with the Mosley movement.

Unfortunately, we in the United States have never had a movement of that quality and certainly have not had such a sustained movement.

S.G.G.

Georgia, USA

● Our correspondent from the United States, a writer and attorney, flew to London in November to attend the Commemoration Dinner. Whilst here, FOM arranged for him to video interview Lady Mosley for the American media.

NEW COMRADE

THANK YOU for "Comrade". It has helped me appreciate all the more the many and great sacrifices made by so many brave men and women stretching back through the years.

(I am a 30 yr old - a mere fledgeling).

I would be honoured if you would place my name on your mailing list.

P.W.

Darlington

● Our correspondent is one of our most recent associates.

OBITUARY

IT IS WITH REGRET that we report the death on 22nd February of **RALPH RATCLIFFE** of Suffolk, age 85. An early member of British Union, the editor and Council member Fred Bailey spent an interesting day with him at his invitation two years shortly after the death of his wife.

"I know he had a very high regard for O.M. and everything connected with him" his daughter tells us. Ronald Creasy writes "They were a delightful family and always strongly behind me and our cause. Faithful to the last."

She was never found in 1940 but **COMRADE** found her in 1986, her first words "Once a Black-shirt always a Black-shirt".

We publish her letter and and tell a little of her story as a further example of the quality of men and women in union with Mosley and his Cause, a Message for those to come.

And to Glad Walsh we send our greetings on this near May Day, and our confirmation of the Leader's judgement when he pinned on her the Steel Distinction for Service and Devotion to the Cause, - alas, destroyed by the German bomb - so many years ago.

OLD COMRADES



In Memoriam

"Hark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages,
Britain listens and rejoices,
Gazing on Tradition's pages...."

BEAVAN, Arthur: BU "I" Squad: D/L West Ham: Parliamentary Candidate Upton: 188 political prisoner: At Basildon age 87 on 23 March 1988

CAMPBELL, J.H.: Manchester BU & UM: In May 1952

COLE, Capt. T.F.: Burgess Hill BU: In May 1939

DICKINSON, H. "Pop": familiar 'Action' seller Manchester Oxford Street: father of R/Insp. Charlie Dickinson to who his last words were "Stick to the Movement". In April 1940

DIXON, Mrs Lilian: wife of BU D/L Jameson Dixon: In April 1966

DUHIG, Paddy: RAF & early member UM Drum Corps: At Millwall 12 April 1986

EASTWELL, Jack: Bethnal Green BU: In April 1975

HAMLEY, Frank: Sheffield: New Party, BU & UM: 188 political prisoner: 26 March 1985

HOGARTH, George: D/T Eye, Suffolk BU and UM: 9 April 1985

LEE, H. Croydon BU: 10 April 1938

MART, Dr. W.T.D., BM LRCS, BSC: Sheffield BU: 19 May 1940

McKECHNIE, Lt. Col.: BU D/L Hastings 13 May 1940

NIGHTINGALE, A.: BU D/L Worham In April '31

MERRITT, William: Tottenham BU: In Australia: In April 1980

PHILLIPS, Joe: Limehouse BU: In April 1951

POWELL, Vice-Adm. CB CMG: BU Parliamentary Candidate for Portsmouth: 27 May 1952

ROBERTSON, Kenneth: Shoreditch BU: In May 1939

SCOTT, Arthur: Beeston, Notts: BU & UM: 188 political prisoner: In May 1959

SHEPHERD, Fred: BU: Army Commandoe: R.W. Fusiliers: UM Organiser North London: 30 April 1988

SIMPKINS, Eric: Woodford: BU & UM Drum Corps: R. Artillery: 4 April 1988

THATCHER, Joe: Dorset farmer: BU & UM: In May 1976

HITFORD, Unity Valkyrie: sister of Lady Mosley: 28 May 1948

WANTED

FOR CASH: Items relating to the political and personal life of Sir Oswald Mosley. Also material on the New Party, British Union of Fascists, and Union Movement. Box C101

Published for Friends of O.M. by John Christian, 101, Orwell Court, Pownall Road, London, E8 4PP

British Union Day
MAY-DAY BUFFET SUPPER
SATURDAY MAY 6TH 1989

COMRADE

NO.19 JUNE / JULY 1989

"The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow"



THE BIG H Hong Kong honour hypocrisy and type

THE HONOUR OF BRITAIN is at stake once again. This time to give up to about three million Hong-kongers the legal right to emigrate to Britain when the Colony is handed over to the Chinese Communists in 1997. To join something like the same number of earlier non-European immigrants and their Britain born offspring now colonising, over-populating, and submerging the whole ethos of our towns and cities.

The pressure for the right to settle in Britain for nearly 4 million Hong Kong Chinese arises from their fears for the future under China in the light of the army massacre of students in Tiananmen Square and subsequent executions of activists for what in most civilised countries are not capital offences, such as arson.

GREAT ENGLISHMEN

"The men of my own stock,
Bitter bad they may be,
But, at least they hear the
the things I hear
And see the things I see;"

RUDYARD KIPLING Page 5

OUR BLACKSHIRT DEAD



Donald S. Chambers-RAF-B.U.
"HAPPY LANDINGS" in 1941.

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

"What though we ourselves be
sitten,
This, our Faith can never die!"

AITKEN, Sq/Ldr Lionel: RAF
59 Sqn & British Union
"I" Squad killed
in action bomb-
ing German con-
voy off Calais
on 7 July 1941;
Lies in Dunkirk
Town Cemetery.

CHAMBERS, Donald S: RAF,
188 political prisoner,
Army, British Union Drum
Corps. On 18 June 1943,
Age 24.

FAIRY, Wt/Off David George:
RAF 212 Sqn & Leytonstone
Branch British Union:
killed on operations,
Cochin, India, Age 23. Lies
Madras War Cemetery.

MULLAN, Lt/Cpl 'Paddy': Corps
of Military Police and
British Union "I" Squad:
killed in action, Battle
of Knightsbridge Box, 12
June 1942: Lies in
Knightsbridge War
Cemetery, Acroma, Libya.

WALSH, Sgt. Michael: RAF 156
Sqn & Limehouse Branch
British Union: Missing on
Bremen Bombing Op, 27
July 1942. Age 23:
Remembered on Runnymede
Air Force Memorial.

This claim is being backed by the Colony's extremely rich business community, many of whom in the past have donated handsomely to the Conservative Party coffers, and who are now believed to be spending even more handsomely with top advertising and public relations interests to lobby the Government and persuade other influential areas of the establishment to amend the British Nationality Act of 1981 to achieve this aim.

This overnight realisation of China communist terror reeks of some hypocrisy. Did not China brutally crush an awakening Tibet only a few months ago and liquidate more than a quarter of its people after the original invasion? And 20 million of its own people after the revolution of 1949, and a further 20 million in the 'Cultural Revolution' of 20 years ago. For the past 40 years, since the Communist take over of China Hong Kong has been a potential time bomb that could have exploded at any time. With Britain's retreat from empire and lost world power status after the Second World War it must have been patently clear that this city state's long term future must inevitably be in the domain of its Chinese homeland.

'All
is well,
safely
rest'



THIS PICTURE of a Spitfire, painted by a young Blackshirt political prisoner in Peveril Concentration Camp, Isle of Man, in December 1940, has solved the identity of "Comrade's" unknown Blackshirt that we use as our Old Comrades logo on our back page.

The autographed painting was given to a comrade who was to be released, and we can now tell some of the story of **DONALD CHAMBERS**, member of Epping Branch and a trumpeter in British Union's London Drum Corps, a part he played for the last time in the trumpet fanfare at Mosley's historic 'Britons Fight for Britain Only' meeting at Earls Court in July 1939.

On the announcement of a state of war on the morning of September 3rd 1939, Don had immediately reported to Uxbridge Depot and joined the RAF, 'an act of patriotism unconsidered in June 1940 when he was arrested and imprisoned without any charge made against him, as were nearly 800 of his British Union comrades.

When released - his brother Alan, also a Blackshirt who died a few years ago believed it to be for reason of a terminal disease caused by imprisonment - the RAF now apparently found him unacceptable, but undaunted Don managed somehow to join the army.

But not for long, for in June 1943 he was to die, at the age of 24, of melanotic carcinoma.

And so another of the many of Mosley's young men died before his time for the Britain he wanted to live for.

He was not killed in action like many young Blackshirts. Unmarried, the world he knew has long forgotten him, but we his old but once young comrades now know, and remember, and lay him to honoured rest in our Roll of Honour.

JEAN MARIE LE PEN's Front Nationale achieved remarkable election successes in France some four years ago - and would have done even better in recent elections if Mitterand had had not tampered with the French electoral system.

This 'revival' has played a not inconsiderable part in firing similar parties in Germany.

The reasons for this massive protest vote for an 'outsider' party are much the same in both countries. In both, large sections of the population are dissatisfied with established parties and policies because they rule over the heads of the people - many of their decisions boxed through against the will of the majority.

Such is the 'democratic conviction' of our so called democratic rulers.

The main reasons for the high votes gained by the nationalist opposition is uncontrolled immigration from mostly non-European countries, unemployment, shortage of cheap housing, increasing crime and a general sense of frustration - problems all too familiar in Britain.

These are great 'vote catchers' but not the only important issue for alert sections of the public.

There is, at least in Germany, a feeling that the whole course is wrong. Many key questions are either not presented, or insufficiently so, in the media or political establishment.

Such as:

- What should have priority, reunification of Germany or West European integration?
- What good is NATO? A defence system which if ever used would only result in total destruction of Germany, East and West, irrespective of eventual outcome of the conflict can hardly recommend itself to German patriots.
- Does Germany wish to remain an American satellite for ever?
- How can an ever expanding economy be equated with the long overdue demands of ecology? Clearly, uncontrolled free enterprise is unlikely to offer a solution.

The German Scene

'Right-Wing' Revival

By **ARTHUR MARSON**
in Cologne

ARTHUR MARSON's report was written before the European Elections in which the Republikaner won 7 per cent of the national vote, 18 per in Bavaria. He uses 'Right' not as his interpretation, but because it is a term of identification used in the media.

- What to do about Russia? Gorbachov's 'perestroika' is in effect a declaration of bankruptcy of the communist system. [The major major objection to communism, moral considerations aside, is that it just doesn't work]

But its demise leaves a great gap requiring a totally new approach to the East-West problem.

The USSR still remains an enormously powerful state and a most dangerous potential opponent, but on the other hand an extremely attractive economic partner.

- War guilt: The majority of Germans are sick and tired of the endless tirades on German guilt for the last war. Fortyfive years is a very long time, and at least two generations of Germans have grown up in this time.

Young and not so young have no personal memories of 1939-45 and certainly no responsibility for events at that time.

Collective responsibility is against the principles of justice as practiced in all civilised countries, and inherited responsibility simply intolerable. Are the French held responsible for the revolution of 1789?

Germans are not proud of a President who addressed the House of Commons and thanked the

British for winning the war. About the same time the Japanese Foreign Minister visiting China told his hosts "Regretably in the past there have been differences between our two peoples", a masterpiece of understatement but preferable to von Weizacker's performance which did not go unnoticed here.

The whole 'war-guilt' question should be left to the historians, many of whom, including several British, have long concluded that there were faults on both sides, and the truth on many aspects will only be known when

All these factors have played a role in the rise of new political groupings. From analysis of elections results it would appear that the 'Right' has more support in the under 30 age group than older groups.

There are some half-dozen parties in Germany generally described in the media as neo-nazis which is more a term of abuse than a factual description. Only two of these have a realistic chance of becoming a factor in the political life of the country.

They are the NPD/DNU, chairman Gerhard Frey, and Die Republikaner led by Franz Schönhuber, both which can be loosely described as national conservative. Neither advocate a re-establishment of the Third Reich or have intentions of changing the existing demo-

cratic system. They are more interested in reforming the present system in the direction of true democracy as opposed to 'manipulated democracy'.

The Republikaner rather favour the Swiss model of holding plebiscites on all questions of basic policy. Both parties claim to be 'populist' in the sense that they are prepared to listen and follow the wishes of the majority.

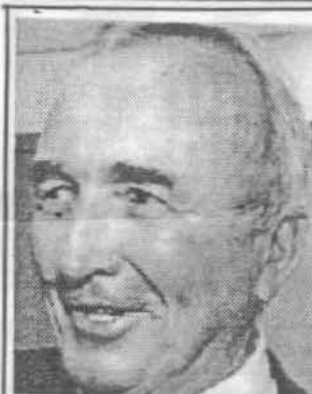
It is regrettable that there are two parties contending for much the same potential vote. The reasons for their differences are partly personal rivalries, and partly through the attitude of the security authorities who list the NPD as 'potentially subversive', but not the Republikaner. They no doubt have some obscure reason for this rather odd judgement.

Election successes have already achieved a great deal, forcing the established parties and the Federal Government to openly discuss such questions as raised in this report.

The string-pullers in party central offices in Munich and Bonn are standing by 'on panic stations'.

One has a feeling that whatever the result of the next Federal election, nothing will ever be the same as it was before.

Germany and France, by their very size and relative importance, are bound to exercise a signal effect on Europe as a whole and will certainly influence also future events in Britain.



Franz Schönhuber
Die Republikaner
GERMANY



Jean Marie
Le Pen
Front Nationale
France

1 ← BIG H

That the British should do everything within their power to help the people of Hong Kong should their fears be realised is an acceptable proposition, as they should, with all other civilised countries, for all the other millions who are suffering terror, torture and genocide in many parts of the world,

generally by their own governments, and which sadly is a feature of our times.

But when politicians, press and priests are united in a call to 'British honour' - to let in thousands from Hong Kong - it is time for the British people to gird their lions to prevent the betrayal and sacrifice of their vital interests which is sure to

come, as has happened so many times in the lifetime of our older citizens.

We have some sympathy with Hong Kong Chinese, and if there was a choice, it is they, in realistic numbers, that the British could accept.

The Chinese situation, and recent events here showing that large immigrant groups have no intention of accept-

ing British laws and way of life, has brought the moment of truth to the British as well as the Hong Kong Chinese.

Successive British governments would appear to have been stricken with a form of viral insanity as they permitted massive immigration from areas of the world whose

BIG H 3

24 BIG H

peoples have unbridgeable differences of culture, life style and character. A 40 year build-up, and there was 40 odd thousand more in 1988, not counting the future high birth rate, and many British people are seeing for the first time the serious threat to their heritage and identity as the expanding 'ethnic minorities' with an unbelief of abortion, sprawls into more and more English towns.

British homeless

There are in Britain today half a million people on council housing waiting lists and 50,000 homeless people under 20 in London. There is little hope for an improvement of this situation in the foreseeable future.

A new and alarming situation which has to be considered is that the world population has begun to accelerate. It is now 250 million more than 1987 and rising at 90 million a year. It is projected that in 39 years it will have doubled. Pakistan and Bangladesh with already high populations will double in 20 odd years, and India in just over 30 years, and some African states have similar projections.

By 1997, the year of the Hong Kong takeover, the populations of these countries, who have in the past exported much of their surplus to Britain with co-operation of British governments, will be nearing explosion, and Britain and other European countries will be hard put to contain massive immigration.

Immigration: Enough is Enough

The indigenous British must now say loud and clear to the politicians who have betrayed them - ENOUGH IS ENOUGH.

Tell them, these politicians of all parties, who have treated you as though you did not exist; who have a party agreement not to discuss immigration; who subject your children to learning ethnic languages in schools; give massive financial handouts to ethnics and bludgeon you with oppressive race laws to silence your protest. Tell them NO MORE. From Hong Kong or anywhere else.

Shake of the coat of 'racist' guilt which by all their powers of persuasion they have forced you to accept..

"Preference for one's own kind not original sin"

Scorn their charge of 'racist' taint and throw it back in their faces. Original

A HARD ACT TO FOLLOW

IT IS NEARLY nine years since Mosley died. Longer than the lifespan of British Union.

How would his thinking have developed if he was with us today?

It would be presumptuous to claim we know. But of one thing we can be certain: his ideas would have developed. His thought was organic, continually advancing in response to events, and the refinement of his own intellect.

To repeat in parrot fashion his policies of decades ago would mean we had learnt nothing from him.

Those who have really studied the evolution of Mosley's thought have the advantage. They understand the natural conflicts of diverse forces that motivates mankind around the world and leads to misery.

And above all they know the power of Synthesis, which they will not confuse with shabby compromise, and which alone provides hope and remedy.

Once they have mastered that they have only to kick open the door.

sin is not a hallmark of preference for one's own kind. It is indeed one of the highest Christian beliefs. **HONOUR YOUR FATHER AND YOUR MOTHER.**

Honour, that quality steeped in British traditions, and one of the highest forms of human excellence that man could aspire to which in the last half-century its mis-use has become obscene.

Our duty to Hong Kong must be honoured they say because the Colony was acquired from China on a 99-year lease in 1898.

In fact only the New Territories on the mainland was acquired. The island of Hong Kong in the Treaty of Nanking in 1842 was ceded by the Emperor of China to 'Queen Victoria and her successors "in perpetuity"'. There never was a promise of a secure future for the people of Hong Kong.

Where was 'honour' when our politicians handed over thousands of refugees to their certain death by Yugoslav Communists and Josef Stalin who had killed more of his own people during the war than the Germans had in battle. Had murdered the Polish Officer Corps at Katyn Wood, and deported and murdered thousands from the

Baltic states in 1940?

Where was 'honour' when we abandoned Burma precipitously leaving the Karens who had fought with us against the Japanese, to the tyranny of a Socialist dictatorship which we had imposed, and ever after left them to their fate?

Where was 'honour' when we scamped so fast out of India that it led to over 2 million bloody deaths?

And where was 'honour' in 1939 when a government elected on a promise to keep Britain at Peace, went to war "to preserve the territorial integrity of Poland" but did but did not tell us until after the war of the secret clause in the Anglo-Polish Agreement restricting our 'honour' to come to their aid, only to an attack by Germany?

And when it was all over, millions dead, Europe in ruins and Britain shorn of all her power created by the skill courage and sacrifice of our forefathers, what was our politicians final act in their debt of 'honour' to to Poland?

"I'm sick of the bloody Poles. I don't want to see them" said Britain's man of honour and gallant war leader Winston Churchill as the Polish delegation arrived as

unwelcome guests at the Potsdam Conference in August 1945, which was to share out the spoils of war, with the Poland for whom our 'honour' had started the war, left permanently under the heels of the Red Army.

And Hong Kong? Spare us the 'honour' bit.

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THOUGHTS THAT By GORDON BECKWELL COME IN A

A Column
of
Forward
Looking
personal
views on
Mosley
Thought

GREMLINS FOR THE KREMLIN

LOOKING FORWARD one can sense a new shift in the pattern of world allegiances.

We hear that the CIA, the KGB and MI5 are to co-operate closely in measures against Arab terrorism. Could this be the first stirrings of a new alliance by America, Russia and Europe against the common threat of Muslim fundamentalism?

We also hear that when Gorbachov throws open Russia's gates to external trade and technology, Germany will be drawn inevitably towards this historic outlet for its expansion. Some Germans already talk of friendship with Russia as a pragmatic alternative to that with America. Perhaps this is part reaction to the keenly felt years of occupation.

Europe should steer clear of all such alliances. A United Europe could handle any threat from the Bover Boys of Old Bagdad without making enemies of the whole Arab world.

And Gorbachov's new open style economics are half truth, half trick: he wants to build Soviet power on a world scale not even dreamt of by Josef Stalin.

First join the EC, then swallow it up.

Instead, Europe should turn Gorbachov's initiatives to its own advantage. If he really does allow independent non-communist governments to emerge in Poland, Hungary etc. then we should invite them to join Europe.

If he blocks it, perestroika is exposed as a sham for all to see.

If not, Europe grows in stature.

Mr. Gorbachov may yet discover a few gremlins on the golden path to glasnost.

Greetings



To Lady Mosley
on her Birthday
June 17th.

unwelcome guests at the Potsdam Conference in August 1945, which was to share out the spoils of war, with the Poland for whom our 'honour' had started the war, left permanently under the heels of the Red Army.

And Hong Kong? Spare us the 'honour' bit.

British Union's Finest Hour



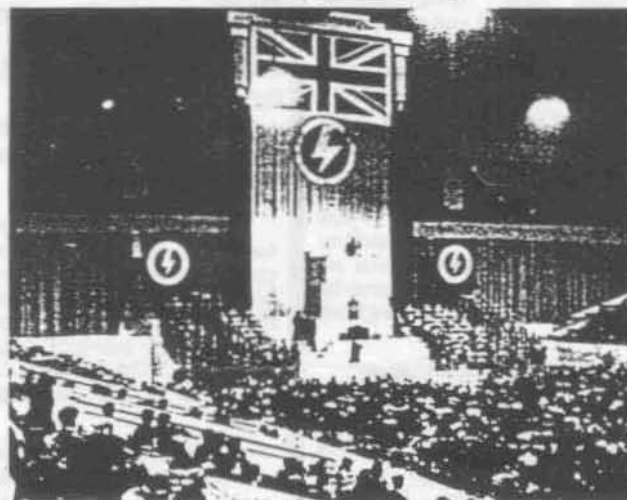
“We gaze into your
eyes and we give you

this holy vow:

we will be true -

Today, Tomorrow

and forever -



ENGLAND LIVES!

FIFTY YEARS AGO this month, British Union held the largest indoor meeting in the world in the greatest hall on Earth. That historic Sunday, 30,000 people packed the Exhibition Hall at Earls Court, larger than Olympia or New York's Madison Square Garden. To hear Mosley speak for Peace and People. This represented more than the runners who packed London's streets in this year's Marathon.

To transport the audience to the Hall, 6 escalators, 5 lifts and a 2000-space car park were used and underground trains laid on to carry thousands from East London. On that evening, as the clouds of war gathered, not a voice of dissent was raised: all had come to hear the man banned from every other major hall in Britain and from the Press and BBC.

In that last Summer of Peace when its support was at its highest, British Union's policy was clearcut. NO WAR to stop the Germans of Danzig and the Polish Corridor rejoining the homeland of which they had been part before World War 1. NO WAR to prevent Germans and Russians fighting over living space in the East.

BRITONS FIGHT FOR BRITAIN ONLY.

Mosley would ensure we had arms enough should that day ever come: a total contrast to the 1939 Labour Party Conference proposal that the RAF should be disbanded. He had summed it up two months earlier: "Anybody who won't fight for Britain is a coward. Anybody who wants to fight for Poland is a fool."

At precisely 7.30pm, the 1st London Drum Corps of British Union made their dramatic entry followed by 2 long columns of Blackshirt stewards who subsequently lined the central aisle for 100

yards on each side, turning inwards to pay tribute to the banners. As the Pageant of the Drums began, the Colour Party marched in headed by the Old Flag, carried since the earliest days, followed by the Womens Drum Corps and massed Honour and District Standards. Following were more banners representing trade union groups - Transport, Miners, Clerical, Textile, Steelworkers and Farm labourers.

Finally, a fanfare of trumpets, and escorted by Director General Neil Francis Francis-Hawkins and Assistant Dir/G B.D.E. Donovan, the tall erect Mosley strode up the centre aisle, the cheering that met

his entry drowning the drums and trumpets.

Mounting the lofty rostrum and there he stood, a lone figure, somehow symbolic of his lone brave fight to preserve a glorious future for the British people.

'The man they loved'

Above him the largest Union Jack in Britain, and below a forest of gleaming standards in a vivid display of Red, Black and Gold, each one carried and escorted by bemedalled veterans of the First World War, and the people of England awaiting the message from the man they loved.

It was several minutes be-

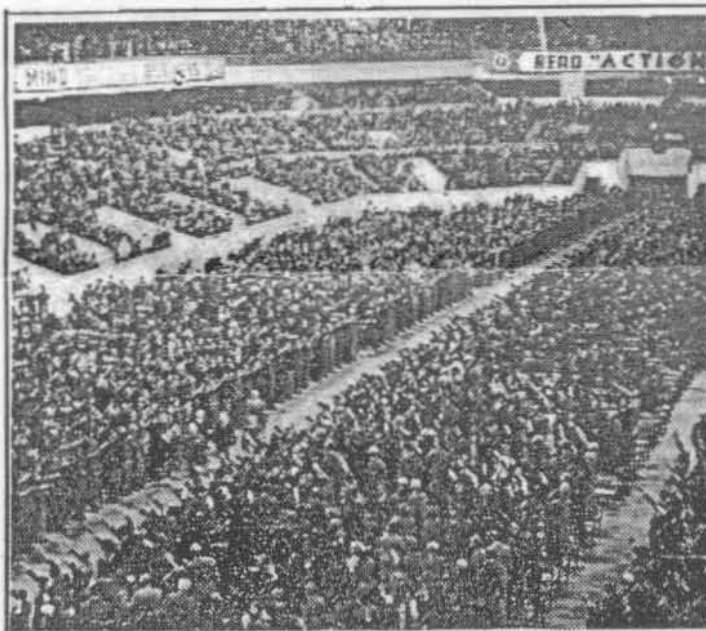
fore the cheering subsided enough for Mosley to open with "Fellow Britons, tonight the British people are here...telling Parliament, telling Parties, telling Government something it is time they should hear...This, the greatest gathering of the English under one roof assembled, tells Government and tells the Parties: 'At last we have had enough'.....Before you drag a million Englishmen to doom, we of British Union...will sweep you by the declared will of the British people from the seats of power that you disgrace."

Later in his speech he said "Because we do not fear, because we shall be strong, because being Men we can understand Men, we will make peace with Germany and all great nations...This policy declared by Britain to Germany and the world will bring peace and the friendship of men for our time and our children's time as well."

After 1 hour 40 minutes he concluded: "To the dead heroes of England, in sacred union, we say: 'Like you we give ourselves to England - across the ages that divide us - across the glories of Britain that unite us - we gaze into your eyes and we give to you this holy vow: we will be true - Today, Tomorrow and forever.

England lives!'"

Afterwards, when the press and public had departed, he



'A fanfare of trumpets and.....the tall erect Mosley strode up the centre aisle!'

FINEST HOUR 5

"I too can hiss the
hair of men erect,
because my lips are
venomous with truth!"
Roy Campbell

COBRA

BISHOP IN WONDERLAND

THE BISHOP of Stepney, The Rt Rev Jim Thompson, has been visiting Norwich for a week-long mission by the city's churches.

During a lecture, he praised the obvious sense of civic pride compared with London and said it was his third successive meeting at which he had spoken to an all-white audience, an 'amazing experience' for it happened

Nevertheless, he begged the people of Norwich to recognise that they might have a lot to learn from other races and cultures, and that they were all a "bit impoverished" for not living in a multi-racial society.

This grand old English Cathedral City, first settled by the Iceni who with their

fighting queen Boadicea threw back the Roman legions. That was burnt out by the Danes, named as 'one of the most important cities in England' by the Normans, and reared one of England's greatest sons, Horatio Nelson, has little to learn I suggest from the Bishop's multies and Stepney's expanding Eastern market place and Indian sub-continent culture.

The evolution of Norwich over 2000 years from a small fishing village to the capital city of county in which through the veins of many of its people still courses the blood of Anglo-Saxon, Norman and Dane, is a romance that had been repeated in many other parts of our island.

Let it remain so, symbolic of the glory that was Britain, a bulwark and catalyst of regeneration in resisting the caracoma that forcefully persuades, that this island race requires injection of incompatible blood and life style, misrepresented as a cultural life force.

Is it not appropriate to suggest a parallel to the thirteenth century invasion of Norwich that destroyed half its citizens?

That unwelcome visitor: the Black Death.

COBRA IN WONDERLAND

ESTIMATES of the daily cost of guarding SALMON RUSHDIE are over £1,000 a day, a requirement it is said will have to last his lifetime.

Which is a little rough on the British taxpayer considering, I am told, that prior to his elevation to the Satan of the Muslim world for alleged blasphemy, he was not backward in almost blasphemous criticism of the 'racist' society in the land he had chosen to make his abode.

I have a solution to the problem of what to do with Mr. Rushdie, which could not only help the British taxpayer but might solve a few other problems as well.

Now that Viraj Mendis, the revolutionary communist atheist illegal immigrant, has gone back to his Sri Lankan home and is apparently living happy ever after, there must be a vacancy at Manchester's Church of Ascension where Mr Mendis sought 'sanctuary' for two years in defiance of Britain's 'racist' law that would send him home to be murdered, he claimed, by his compatriots.

Rector of the church, Father



John Methuen would surely do his bit, and that gallant band of freedom fighters who guarded Mendis and provided his creature comforts would surely again rally to the cause. The left-wing Greater Manchester Council with its first black Lord Mayor, would probably again, as they did for Mendis, create a job for Rushdie. One suitable to his talents. Perhaps a book. 'Racism and Sexism in Antarctica' springs to mind.

And when this elite guard with a fondness for shouting "We need more Keith Blakelocks, we need more Yvonne Fletchers" - the two murdered police officers - meet the "Kill Rushdie" mobs and find they have much in common, they can mutually decide whether the poet is to be Saint or Satan, and set up a permanent shrine as exemplified by those odd women of Greenham Common.

It could be wrong. We might instead get 'rivers of blood', a forecast fulfilled which could please Enoch Powell but would be a rough deal for Manchester.

It could however, for a time, save the desecration of other towns and cities by those mobs who though British by law, and even by birth, have recently demonstrated their inability to belong, or even their wish to belong, to the host society identified by its customs and values matured through 2000 years.

Will it happen? Of course it won't. Will the Government take other action such as prosecutions for threatening to murder? Of course they won't. Our so called democratic politicians have put the wishes of the indigenous British last for decades and they are not now likely to find the will and courage to change.

I warn young men with the feeling of the British Britain of our fathers in their hearts, not to be carried away by the ease in which threats to kill have been permitted in English streets, or by my cynicism.

Do not parade your English streets with such murderous shouts as 'Britain for the British'.

The long arm of the politicians who have created their Frankenstein will have you put away before you can say Ayatollah or Nelson Mandela.

4 FINEST HOUR

asked his Blackshirts to gather close around him and in a quieter voice thanked them and added "I need say no more of an evening that will not only live for ever in our memory but one day will live in British history.....such things once born can never die, and in the final struggle can never know defeat."

So ended British Union's finest hour. All who attended that mighty demonstration for peace came away convinced that war could not now come: Government would have to listen.

And but for Churchill, urging war at any price as a last chance of escaping political oblivion, and Hitler, who might have gained everything justly German in time, but could not wait —

So the countdown to war began in which perished 50 million Europeans, the wealth of Britain - and the greatest empire to grace the world since the dawn of civilisation.

GORDON BECKWELL

"A very large increase in the rate of recruiting" for British Union in London and several Provincial centres" — Special Branch report after the Earls Court Rally. (H0144/21995 Public Records Office).

"The Stranger within my gates"

*The stranger within my gate,
He may be true or kind,
But he does not talk —
I cannot feel his mind.
I see the face and the eyes and the mouth,
But not the soul behind.*

*The men of my own stock
They may do ill or well.
But they tell the lies I am wonted to,
They are used to the lies I tell,
We do not need interpreters
When we go to buy or sell.*

*The Stranger within my gates,
He may be evil or good,
But I cannot tell what powers control —
What reasons sway his mood;
Nor when the Gods of his far-off land
May repossess his blood.*

*The men of my own stock,
Bitter bad they may be,
But, at least they hear the things I hear
And see the things I see;
And whatever I think of them & their likes
They think of the likes of me.*

*This was my father's belief
And this is also mine:
Let the corn be all one sheaf —
And the grapes be all one vine
Ere our children's teeth are set on edge
By bitter bread and wine. Rudyard Kipling*

MAY-DAY BUFFET

On the first Saturday in May the Friends of Oswald Mosley gathered in a central London hotel to demonstrate anew the continuance of that Spirit that represents the eternal hope for a Greater Britain.

For some it was their first 'Mosley Meeting' while at least one other present could claim personal loyalty to OM's movements that preceded even the foundation of British Union. Among those attending for the first time was one who began independent research 25-years ago into the organisation, leadership and grass-roots membership of BU and today can be regarded as pre-eminent in this subject. A Blackshirt now over 80 years old who was deeply moved to discover that the Spirit of the Movement continues on such a scale, and a former UK candidate who polled nearly 1000 votes in a S.V. London council election to prove that support for Mosley was not confined to East London strongholds alone.

Such were three men and women who gathered on British Union Day 1989. Michael Quill

introduced three speakers from diverse walks of life: Farmer, Soldier and Market Worker. Though the style differed the message that evening from Robert Saunders OBE, the 'Major' and Dan Hargreaves was strikingly constant.

We all carried a responsibility that neither family nor working commitments, age nor years of previous service absolved us from. We must all do something to spread the Spirit and ideas that brought us together for if we defaulted such meetings as this had no meaning. The smouldering embers were there, favourable to all areas of OM's thinking. Once fanned, the petty farce of present day Europe could be transformed by a mighty flame of awakening purpose.

Robert Saunders underlined the potential by quoting recent opinion polls on a United Europe: all of them in favour. But it was among the young that the trend was even more marked: 75% supported what OM called long ago 'Europe a Nation'.

"More than ever are such men and women needed in this the greatest of all ages of decision." JEREMY WALKER

Old Soldiers Never Die



THE LEADER's BENTLEY, which he extensively used in the 1930s to drive to British Union meetings and marches, is still going strong. It recently took part in the Shell Rally at Cannes. Its present owner would welcome any details of its history. 'Wounded' by a bullet at Mosley's Hull meeting in 1936, the 'old war-horse' could tell a tale or two if it could talk.

Seen here with the Leader driving past the Blackshirt column on the Embankment after he had marched with them from Royal Mint-street following 'the Battle of Cable Street' on October 4 1936, it was finally retired at the Blackshirt Camp at Selsey in 1937 when O.M. was presented with a new MG by members of British Union.

FRIENDS OF O.M. NORTHERN AFTERNOON BUFFET
Sunday
September 24 1989

Published for Friends of O.M. by John Christian, 101, Drwell Court, Pownall Road, London, E8 4PP

In Memoriam

"Hark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages,
Britain listens and rejoices,
Gazing on Tradition's pages...."

BAINES, Derek Talbot: BUF "1"

Squad: Nr. Bognor: Summer 1981

BENNETT, Charles: former Mayor of

Bethnal Green, Chairman 8G

British Legion: mbr. N/E 8G

British Union: 53: In June 1939

BOWMAN, William James: Plating,

Manchester British Union.

In July 1939

BROWN, Charles: O/Ldr Wavertree

Liverpool British Union; 188

political prisoner 1940: Union

Movement O/Ldr, Salford, Lancs:

In June 1962

COLE, Capt. T.F: early officer

Burgess Hill British Union:

In May 1939

CRABTREE, Bill: Bury, Lancs

British Union: Union Movement:

In July 1975

DYMOCK, The Rev G.M: Vicar of St.

Bedes, Bristol: 188 political

prisoner 1940: In July 1956

DOWTY, John: Worcestershire

Ntl. Farmers Union and British

Union Parl. Candidate, Evesham:

At 94: In July 1978

GOUGH, Joseph 'Bowie': Bass

drummer Birmingham British

Union Drum Corps: 188 political

prisoner arrested after coming

through Dunkirk 1940: Rejoined

army unit on release.

In July 1963

GOUGH, Victor: Son of 'Bowie'

188 political prisoner after-

wards RAF. On 27 June 1975

HUDSON, Cdr. C.E. OBE, RD, RNR.

Rtd: O/Ldr Bognor British Union

Camp Ldr. Huyton Concentration

Camp: never recovered from Camp

ill health. In June 1948

MOSLEY, Maude Lady: Mother and

Loyal supporter of O.M.: Head

of Women's BUF in early days:

On 20 June 1948

NICHOLLS, Tommy: South London

British Union. In June 1981

TEMPLE COTTON, Rafe: British

Union Inspector, Devon: Parl.

Candidate, Exeter: Imprisoned

188 1940. On 18 June 1985

SHELDON, Father Philip:

Early British Union member and

agent for BU candidate at

Middleton & Prestwich, Lancs,

1940 just before 188 detention

during which he suffered

severe interrogation at notor-

ious Latchmere House, Ham Cmn.

After the war he entered a

religious order.

THOMSON, Palmer:

Aylesbury Br: Detained 188 in

poor health: died shortly after

in Walton Jail. In June 1940

WANTED

FOR CASH: Items relating to the political and personal life of Sir Oswald Mosley. Also material on the New Party, British Union of Fascists, and Union Movement. Box C101

OLD COMRADES



OBITUARY

BILL CLARKE

WITH REGRET we report the death in Morpeth of **BILL CLARKE**. An ex Royal Marine Commando, Bill was Treasurer of North West Branch Union Movement from 1970 to 1974 when he returned to his native Northumberland.

GEORGE TRESADEN

On June 3rd in Bethnal Green, 93 yr old **GEORGE TRESADEN**, the brother of Arthur, remembered by many as "uncle" who died a few years ago.

The Tresaden's gave much valued and loyal support to Mosley in the early days of Union Movement in East London.

STAN VERRALL

ANOTHER old comrade whose death we sadly report, **STAN VERRALL** of Croydon.

A member of British Union, Stan is active in the Mosley Book Clubs preceding the birth of Union Movement of which he was a founder member.

Putting it right

THERE IS not a more able defender of Oswald Mosley's policies and record than **Lady Mosley** - as seen here in a letter to the Sunday Times

Mosley for Europe

PROFESSOR SKIDELSKY, in his review of Alistair Horne's Macmillan Volume II (June 18), writes: "It can be argued that Macmillan's mismanagement of Britain's relations with France and Germany led to our being excluded from the Common Market just when the country was starting to lose influence in Washington."

It can indeed. He goes on: "Horne's masterly analysis of this imbroglio shows that the choice between America and Europe was not clearly seen by anyone at that time." On the contrary, it was clearly seen by Oswald Mosley immediately the war ended in 1945. The idea of never being more than an American satellite was unappealing.

For 35 years, until his death in 1980, Mosley made speeches, wrote books, travelled over Europe, and (after the ban on him was lifted) spoke on television, advocating united Europe, a third force as powerful as the two superpowers. Having lost our empire there was, in his view, no alternative.

Professor Skidelsky is aware of this, for he was Mosley's biographer. Diana Mosley Orsay, France

TAILPIECE

"WE CANNOT LIVE in this country together with The Satanic Verses and Salman Rushdie. They will have to go" - Dr Kalim Siddiqui, director of the Moslem Institute this week.

What's keeping him?

COMRADE

NO.20 AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 1989

"The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow"



ON THE MORNING of that fateful day, September 3, my wife and I, accompanied by our two youngest children, were sitting on one of the downs overlooking Canterbury with its glorious cathedral splendid in the bright summer sunshine, when the cathedral's famous 'Bell Harry' boomed eleven o'clock. I knew that from that moment we were at war with Germany and sick at heart I turned to my wife saying: "The Bell Harry is sounding the end of the British Empire." Few would have agreed with me at that time: most people would have considered my remark to be preposterous.

September 3 1939

ALL THE WAY TO ARMAGEDDON

"And Oswald Mosley, would they shut him up? And was it not a supreme tragedy that one of the most brilliant men of our age, who might have talked to Hitler in a language that he would have understood, should have been shuffled off the stage as though he were a criminal?"

Beverly Nichols

Two things about the BUF have surprised historians.

One was the appeal of what they had been led to believe was a reactionary organisation, to such leading suffragettes as Mary Allen, Mary Richardson and Norah Elam.

The other was its strong pacifist nature. The BUF did not contain timid types: a substantial proportion of its membership consisted of battle-hardened veterans of the First World War - no wilting violets or pansies these.

In Memoriam

FOR ENGLAND: for BRITAIN, for GREAT BRITAIN, for the BRITISH EMPIRE, that legacy of greatness handed down by our forefathers, the sum of countless generations of genius, heroism and sacrifice, that in 1939, by an unbelievable political act of folly, in disregard of all true British interests, threw all this away.

* LATE NEWS "Cobra" P.6 now "Enemies Within?" We reciprocate with "BBC Trickery?"

IN TRIBUTE to British Union's own historian, DICK BETLAMY, who died a year ago, we lead on this 50th Anniversary of World War II, with a prophetic excerpt, and the final chapter of his book, "We Marched with Mosley".

The fact is that Mosley, Henry Williamson, General Puller and indeed the generality of members had learned a most important lesson, one that obviously had not been learned by the Continental Fascists and is still not clearly understood: that war - the Twentieth Century's "Total War" - has become too immensely destructive for national objectives to be achieved by it.

In any case the BUF did not believe in interventionism in European affairs. It contended that Britain's national and imperial interests would be best served by avoiding all foreign entanglements and concentrating on the development of an insulated isolationist, self-sufficient British Empire. "Splendid Isolation" as Lord Beaverbrook called it.

From the time of Munich we

MOSLEY BOYS FIRST TO DIE



British Union
ROLL OF HONOUR
1939 1945

DAY K.G.: Age 20 and
BROCKING G.T.: 22:

RAF 9 Sqn and member of British Union. Aircraftman 2nd Class voluntary Air Gunners Wellington L4275: killed in action September 4 1939 bombing German battleships Brunsbuttel, Keil Canal.

KEN DAY, the First British Official Casualty, was first buried with full military honours at Cuxhaven. He now lies at Becklingen War Cemetery, Germany.

GEORGE BROCKING is remembered on the Air Force Memorial, Runnymede, with 20546 other airmen with no known graves.

THEIRS: A GREATER GLORY

BRUNING, Clement: British Union Admin. Officer & NHQ speaker: BU Candidate Wood Green: 31: On August 17 1942 in German Concentration Camp: Buried Cracow Commonwealth Plot, Poland.

For Them - a Greater Sacrifice... and a Greater Glory.

worked night and day to avoid conflict with Germany. Despite the frenzied rearmament the British public was in a far from bellicose mood, and right up to May 1940 we received a far more sympathetic hearing than those who had spoken against the war in 1914.

"Life to be sure is nothing much to loose; But young men think it is, and we were young."

A.E. Houseman

"Our creed and our movement instil in man the heroic attitude to life, because he needs heroism..."

Oswald Mosley 1938

"....Deliberately we willed the birth of a type who was half soldier and half politician, partly a tough warrior....and partly an inspired idealist....This was our dream....and in many fine young men it was largely realised."

Oswald Mosley 1968

AIR HEROES

British Union Members

IN the first casualty list of the war appeared two names: K. G. Day and C. T. Brocking. Both were British Union members; both went down in the early days of the war in circumstances of extraordinary heroism, the details of which will be revealed.

His old B.L. writes of Brocking: "He was an intimate friend of mine, a grand, splendid lad; an excellent pianist and organist. He was fond of fun, with an ever ready smile; yet his frequent discussions on present day problems and British Union remedy for them, revealed intelligence far beyond the average. He was of the very finest type of young Englishman and British Union are definitely the poorer for his passing."

We Shall Remember

"Action" 12 October 1939

THE SPIRIT LIVES

ALL THE WAY TO ARMAGEDDON

Yet we were greatly hampered in a way that has not hitherto been remarked on. A substantial proportion of our members were of military age - army, navy and air force reservists, many of whom had been called up in 1938 and who were again called up in 1939. From July our younger members were being conscripted into the Militia. We were losing the services of our most active members at a growing pace. Many of our 400 branches had to suspend their activities because all the branch officials and active members had been called up.

This was particularly noticeable at the July 1939 meeting at Earl's Court. At this, the largest indoor gathering that had ever been held, a great many members in the 30,000-strong audience were in uniform.

The BUF was by no means alone in advocating an honourable, negotiated peace after 3 September 1939. Many other organisations wanted the war to end before real hostilities began, including the Independent Labour Party, and the Peace Pledge Union, with its eleven million supporters.

Even the British Government after the fall of France, put out feelers to seek terms. In Washington, Lisbon and Berne, British diplomats made appropriately discreet contact with the Germans. Lord Halifax suggested to the War Cabinet that a favourable reply should be prepared if Hitler offered peace on fair terms.

But Churchill was now Prime Minister. So instead of proposing peace, Halifax was given the task of firmly rejecting Hitler's peace offer.

At the beginning of May after the Germans broke through the Ardennes, overran the Low Countries and reached the Channel Coast, Mosley bade his followers to do their duty as Britons and resist the foreign invader with the utmost determination.

The response of the Government was to rush a new amendment to Defence Regulation 18B through Parliament, so that within a matter of hours Mosley was behind bars, where he was followed in the course of the next few days by more than 800 of his followers, including myself.

Hitler must be destroyed whatever the cost, declared Churchill. The cost for Britain was the destruction of its Empire, its power



Chamberlain
'great
humanity'

Churchill
'desperate
gambler'

IT HAPPENS! Over a period of many years a controversial figure is the object of universal condemnation. Then a brilliant young historian comes along with the evidence that refutes the general verdict. This happened in the case of Oswald Mosley, and with the publication of John Charmley's *Chamberlain and the Lost Peace*, (Curtis/Hodder and Stoughton £15) is likely to happen in the case of Neville Chamberlain.

Chamberlain had been a competent if uninspired Chancellor of the Exchequer in 1923 and 1924 and again between 1931 and 1937, when he succeeded Baldwin as Leader of the Conservative Party and Prime Minister.

and in the long term its cultural and racial identity.

Nirad C. Chaudhuri's vivid illustration of Britain's decline provides both my country and my book with a symbolic epitaph:

"One day in 1908, when I was aged 10 and living in a small town in East Bengal, I was running up a steep bank from the river in front of our house, shouting: 'England expects every man to do his duty'. A Bengali gentleman was passing along the road above on an elephant. He leaned out and asked me, smiling, if I knew what the words were about. When I gave the correct answer he went away with a broad smile.

The days when an elderly Bengali on an elephant and a Bengali boy of 10, barefooted as well as bareheaded, could have that kind of exchange and claim their share in English greatness are gone for ever. Today, at the age of 90, I see Bengalis ignorant of English arriving in jumbo jets from that same East Bengal to turn England into a multi-racial, multi-lingual and multi-cultural country."

The Peacemaker and the Warmongers

In May 1937, British public opinion was becoming divided between those who still believed in balance-of-power politics and others who regarded the concept as outdated and a threat to world peace. This resulted in some curious political alliances. Among the "Germanophobes" were Churchill, Duff Cooper, Hugh Dalton, Anthony Eden, Gladwyn Jebb, Lord Lloyd, Harold Nicolson and Sir Robert Vansittart of the Foreign Office - all determined to prevent the return to Germany of its lost Eastern territories.

One of the most interesting things to emerge from a reading of John Charmley's book is the extent to which the anti-balance-of-power view was held by persons in positions of authority who possessed the experience and understanding of foreign affairs that Chamberlain was alleged to lack. Lord Halifax, for example felt that: "We go badly wrong if we allow our judgement of practical steps to be taken, to be perpetually deflected by our moral reactions against wrong" and he had declared that "We want no encirclement of Germany. We want no exclusive alliances."

But encirclement was exactly what Churchill and Co. were proposing with their suggested "Grand Alliance" of Britain, France, Russia, Czechoslovakia, Poland and anyone else who could be persuaded to join. It was Chamberlain who pointed out to "the desperate gambler" that: "You only have to look at the map to see that nothing that we or France could do could possibly save Czechoslovakia from being overrun by the Germans."

Charmley reminds us that: "Successive British Governments, acting on the assumption that their diplomacy had succeeded proceeded to cut defence spending. Particularly active in this sphere was Churchill, Baldwin's Chancellor in the 1920s, who, operating on the assumption that there would not be a major European war for ten more years, proved to be the last Gladstonian financier at No. 11 Downing Street as he

pared the defence estimates ruthlessly."

Six months after becoming PM, Chamberlain received a report from the Chiefs of Staff that "We could not hope to confront satisfactorily Germany, Italy and Japan simultaneously" and that it was essential to 'reduce the number of our potential enemies' by diplomatic means. This, coupled with Chamberlain's firm belief that "Britain's foreign policy had to be tailored to her economic and defence capabilities" could be said to be the basis of the entire Appeasement policy - which ended abruptly in March 1939 with the dismemberment of Czechoslovakia.

Charmley draws our attention to "a shadowy group" of anti-Nazis called The Focus with which Churchill was associated, whose finances "came from rich British Jews such as Sir Robert Mond (a director of several chemical firms) and Sir Robert Waley-Cohen, the managing director of Shell, the latter contributing £50,000. That British Jews should have wished to help their co-religionists in Germany was understandable, but it inevitably aroused in others a feeling of 'Why should Britain fight for the Jews?'"

Charmley argues that the Anti-German policies advocated by Churchill and Eden (the 'vacillating equivocator') would simply have "plunged Britain even earlier into a war from which she was in any case to gain little. That Britain survived and came out on the winning side owed much to sheer good fortune - something on which

Chamberlain was not prepared to gamble an Empire.".... Chamberlain had feared that history, written by those who had replaced him, might judge him harshly, and he was correct. But not even the edifice erected by Churchill could survive unscathed that opening of the records which, Chamberlain hoped, would explain his policy. The 'Guilty Men' syndrome has run its course, and Chamberlain's reputation stands better now than it has ever done....

We strongly recommend this book to our readers.

PETER MARCY

'But there was never a spring without some wild weather, without a bitter north-easter, as winter slackens its grip. And no more than these rearwards of winter can stop the bursting of the bud and the uprush of the young leaf-blades can the rearwards of reaction stop the renewal of national life. British Union marches on. Spring comes again,' - Jorian Jenks "Spring Comes Again" 1939

WHEN JORIAN JENKS was appointed British Union Parliamentary Candidate for Horsham and Worthing in 1936, he was already well-known to readers of "Action". The author of many brilliant articles on agriculture, sometimes as 'Vergilius', he was a working Sussex farmer and understood only too well the iniquity of a Government policy that imported cheap eggs from China while British producers faced bankruptcy.

Graduating from Oxford and serving in World War 1, Jenks later held many important farming appointments in England and New Zealand, an experience he put at the disposal of British Union as Agricultural Adviser and active campaigner on behalf of British farmers and farmworkers.

In an illuminating wartime article in "Action" before Mosley was interned, he turned from his usual subject to show the true depths of his convictions as an ex-serviceman. Under the banner: "The British Socialism of British Union" he wrote: "British Union is for Peace, because it believes that war is a wicked waste of life and wealth, because it knows that war obstructs the advance of socialism. But British Union is also revolutionary because it is pledged to break the power of International Finance over Britain. Thus Britain can achieve true Freedom and real Democracy through British Union."

Such words in 1940 earned ex-soldiers a place in a British concentration camp, and the slur of treason. So Jenks followed some 800 other British Union patriots behind barbed wire.

JORIAN JENKS, BLACKSHIRT, FARMER, AND

THE FIRST GREEN

BY GORDON BECKWELL

The aftermath of war brought acute food shortages to Europe and Jenks turned his attention to the formidable problem.

Answering Mosley's call for a new beginning for Europe, he helped establish the Union Movement Agricultural Council with former farmer worker, now editor of "Action" Robert Row and Dorset farmer Robert Saunders. This culminated in the production of the remarkable Union Movement publication "None Need Starve" which set out a masterly plan for increased production and prosperity on the land.

But Jenks was now working to influence a wider sphere. With Derek Stuckey and other former British Union members, he joined the Rural Reconstruction Association to research and develop and propagate new principles of good husbandry. He was also a founder member of the Soil Association which pioneered the organic movement in farming. Here, in the latter days of his life's work, he found a cause which probably equalled the intensity of his political ideas. In his book "The Stuff Man's Made Of" he anticipated the current wholefoods 'explosion' by a quarter of a century.

He maintained that between 1901 and 1956 heart disease had increased by 84%, cancer

by 155%, nervous disease by over 150%, and he believed it was no coincidence that the use of chemical fertilisers had increased by one-third between the wars, and had nearly trebled between 1939 and 1954 to increase the quality of the yield. Equally he blamed the 'civilised' food of commerce: highly processed, low in fibre, and depleted of vitamins.

When he wrote: "Crusaders have always been cranks in the eyes of their critics, arguments for reform have always been misunderstood, or misrepresented" he could equally have been speaking of his political as of his nutritional beliefs.

His 'Green' views were not fully shared by all his old comrades, understandably perhaps at a time after the war when the pressing need was for food in greater quantity. Editor of "Action" and Secretary of Union Movement Raven Thomson once told him wittingly: "People can forgive one eccentricity, but not two!"

With his death in August 1974 agriculture lost a sincere and revolutionary thinker. Perhaps Jorian's message today would be that in a new age when farming surpluses have become the problem, the time is right to give nutritional quality a chance.

Bibliography: Spring Comes Again, 1938; Ill Fares the Land, 1945; From the Ground Up, 1950; The Stuff Man's Made Of, 1959. Many letters by Jenks relating to the R.R.A. and U.M.A.C. are undated to be among the post-war files of The Saunders Collection in Sheffield University Library. His books can be read at the British Museum Library, London, or possibly obtained through Hoovey's Book Finding Service of Hastings.



POLITICAL PRISONER

The first twelve months

AT THE END of his first twelve months of detention JORIAN JENKS left his thoughts in a fellow detainee's notebook, and two months later he recorded further words of a countryman's wisdom for a further departing detainee.

"Twelve months of detention is a long time in the comparatively short history of British Union. Yet it seems to have passed quickly and not entirely without variety - Brixton and Stafford Prisons - the Military Intelligence hall at Ham Common - Ascot Concentration Camp, and finally deportation and exile on the Isle of Man at Peveril Camp, Peel.

To some of us it has not been a waste of time as new friends have been made and old ones consolidated. In various ways we prepare for the future.

Let us have no delusion as to the enormity of the task. As I sit in my little room looking out over the sea, I sometimes wonder - will we have enough faith to carry us through.

I think of the Leader, locked up in a cell in Brixton - we, his Blackshirts, in exile here at Peel - the Movement outside blasted to the four winds by wartime restrictions, war service, air-raids and evacuation - wives, children scattered all over the country, largely living on charity and relief - whole districts bombed and blitzed out of existence - we shall need all the faith in the world to face this chaos."

Though the days may seem long, and the end afar off, the day of harvest is at hand, when each shall reap as he has sown.

Jorian F. Jenks 17-8-41.



Jorian was not just a farmer, a writer, a thinker. Here he is marching with Mosley on British Union's May Day March from Westminster to Dalston in 1939

"The long-unquestioned dominance of multi-culturalism has sent England into hiding and forced the English people to disinvent and un-English themselves. By slow, shameful stages our country has been taken away from us, yet the habit of Englishness lingers and perhaps there is still time to find a new, unapologetic patriotism to rekindle the spirit of the English race."

* THE SUNDAY TELEGRAPH AUGUST 13 1989

Will this be the death of England?

England was lost and no man durst
peak truth (John Pym 1641)

THE ANNOUNCEMENT that Mr John Major, the new Foreign Secretary, is to visit Hong Kong in an effort to reassure residents about their future has encouraged hopes that the colony's \$25 million British dependent territory passport holders will be allowed to settle

Nigerian as Lord Mayor, shopkeepers tell of violent intimidation of their staff by black gangs, it is announced that the majority of inner London school pupils are now from immigrant families, police are attacked by Asian mobs in Bradford, and Anglican clerics decide that the injunction to provide broadly Christian Services in schools need not refer to the Crucifixion and Resurrection

David Lovibond

dismissed as "colour prejudiced". Rapid integration with English society was the ambition of the new arrivals (as well as the official policy towards them) and the celebration of immigrant culture was very much a private affair.

ter of geography, a neutral or new-found-land belonging to everyone and no one. In this anciently settled country the English people are rooted in the land, they take their traditions from it and from the older races who preceded them there. A nation is a people and its land together and England is resonant with the signs and landmarks of its past.

Elizabethan "theme" parks stand in for history, and television costume dramas provide a gilded remembrance of an older, simpler England.

Reality is a triumphalist black nationalism which reviles and despises England, demands that every trace and nuance of Englishness be condemned as racist, and insists that its own political aspirations be instantly recognised, its 'cultural' excesses indulged and its crimes excused as 'protest action'.

A Generation of Racial Betrayal

In what our political establishment will no doubt regard as "an amazing outburst of 'racism'", the Sunday Telegraph, in a leading article by David Lovibond, has attacked the whole concept of the multi-racial myth which the British people: Bullied and constrained to silence by the law" have been forced to accept.

We congratulate them on arriving at the moment of truth after some three decades of acquiescence in the wishful thinking of an immigrant integrated and/or multi-racial Paradise, born out of the realisation of: "what sort of England will our children know" if we are forced by the politicians to "accommodate the Chinese millions?" from Hong Kong. "Never again the England we knew, remembered and loved with all our hearts."

Mr. Lovibond points a finger at those vested interests bringing pressures to persuade a British Government to admit 3.25 million or perhaps more Hong Kongese into Britain: "Disingenuous references to 'our yellow citizens' and 'hard-working British subjects' do not conceal the fervent Chinese patriotism and profound foreignness of the Hong Kong people."

He insists that the Government's resolve - not to allow settlement must not fail. "If the noise of moral outrage and righteousness should but once distract the Prime Minister from her duty to this country, then events in China will portend the death of England."

In view of the prospect of an influx of Chinese, he asks whether "the pernicious doctrine of multi-racialism has so debilitated the English that they have lost their voice and no longer think of themselves as the only possessors of England."

Almost daily, the writer sees some new "retreat from Englishness," and "bold advance for ethnic nationalism: 20,000 Muslims burn the Union

flag in London, a city in the north of England appoints a Nigerian as Lord Mayor, shopkeepers tell of violent intimidation by black gangs, it is announced that the majority of Inner London school pupils are now from immigrant families, police are attacked by Asian mobs in Bradford, and Anglican clerics decide that the injunction to provide broadly Christian Services in schools need not refer to the Crucifixion and Resurrection

of Christ.

"Barely a generation ago" he continues, "these islands were occupied by a single people, who despite differences of region, background were bound by common loyalties....shared history and memory". Now we have become 'the white section of the community', and Britishness is something to be had from the bazaar". He believes that English people have not been made a helot class by conquest but by "indolence and intellectual feebleness...myopic kindness and a naive faith in the permanence of our institutions that all the old certainties were lost and England betrayed"

Mr. Lovibond describes the tens of thousands that have become unassimilable millions" who have made it quite clear, by retaining their customs, language, dress, that they have no intention of joining the indigenous life of this country, and therefore: "without reference to the wishes of the English people, the concept of integration was abandoned in favour of multi-culturalism."

With scorn he attacks "this insidious orthodoxy" which gives the immigrants the right of separate cultural and national identities. "Colonists to whom England

belongs as much and as undeniably as it does to the English. Britishness...nothing more than possession of a passport and theoretical conformity with the law."

England means more than a "matter of geography, a neutral or new-found-land belonging to everyone and no one. In this anciently settled country the English people are rooted in the land, they take their traditions from it and from the older races who preceded them."

A nation is a union of its land and its people, the English countryside symbolic of the English heritage, but even this is under attack from the spoilers says Mr. Lovibond, "At a time when England is being driven from the punished, anonymous landscapes of the cities," the final hope for "confirmation and reassurance that this is the place of the English."

...Almost as if the apparatus of multi-culturalism...had hunted down these sacred places that speak the forbidden language of nation and conspired at their destruction."

In a feeling of loss and bewilderment, the English have retreated into the past of historic television dramas and Elizabethan "theme" parks.

But "Reality is a triumphant black nationalism which reviles and despises England, demands that every trace and nuance of Englishness be condemned as racist, and insists that its own political aspirations be instantly recognised, its 'cultural' excesses indulged and its crimes excused as 'protest action'."

Bullied and constrained to silence by the law, the English people know what the appeasement of Afro-Caribbean nationalism has meant: drug-trafficking, vicious muggings, rapes, 'Steaming' gangs raging through London's tube stations like Zulu imps and terrifying loud music used to cause as much misery as possible."

"The Stranger within my gates"

HILDA BELLAMY, wife of the late Dick Bellamy, whose words are featured on our front page, has pointed out an incomplete line in our use of Kipling's poem in Comrade 19. We cannot sell Kipling short and we therefore print the corrected first verse.

*The stranger within my gate,
He may be true or kind,
But he does not talk my talk—
I cannot feel his mind.
I see the face and the eyes and
the mouth,
But not the soul behind.*

A Generation of Racial Betrayal

The writer has publicly initiated a debate that is long overdue on what is probably the major problem facing the future of this island race and which politicians of all parties have deliberately and consistently evaded, including the newer 'Greens' and other 'conservationist' interests who loudly clamour for the conservation of wild life, ancient buildings and nature but ignore completely the question of the continued existence of the indigenous British race.

Mr. Lovibond has developed his case with intellectual integrity, but his words are also a cry from the heart and a breath of hope to the mass of ordinary folk who have long felt and known these things.

I would with some respect differ, unless I am mistaken in Mr. Lovibond's view, that it is only a potential influx of millions of Chinese that poses the question: "What sort of England will our children know?"

Some 40 years ago, the Royal Commission on Population reported that "capacity of a fully established society like ours to absorb immigrants of alien race and religion is limited", and such a development "undesirable", and its disregard by all British Governments, in spite of their various so-called immigration laws, have butchered this island race to the point of what many feel is no return. It is too late.

But not quite. There is still a chance. Further immigration from former Commonwealth now independent countries must be stopped completely and a massive high costing scheme of voluntary repatriation be initiated to return large numbers of immigrant families to the lands of their own cultures.

Those responsible or who have acquiesced in this developing tragedy - and tragedy it is, will cry 'inhuman'.

Not at all. When there was no foreseeable work for the poor white British between the wars, Government persuasion, financial and otherwise, directed many to a new life in the Dominions and Colonies, and I do not recall any cry of inhumanity.

There is in fact little choice. Its either that or the New England of warring 'ethnic', the Lebanon of the West.

Our children will then know the answer to the question their parents asked, and who by their in-dolence in fighting for their children's future, had sold out their birthright.

JOHN CHRISTIAN

THOUGHTS THAT COME IN A

By GORDON
BECKWELL

A Column
of
Forward
Looking
personal
views on
Mosley
Thought

BIGGEST EVER CHINESE TAKE AWAY

There have been very few racial troubles involving Chinese people living in Britain.

But some people want to change all that.

A few days before last summer's Euro-election, Paddy Ashdown, leader of the SDP, was on TV insisting that we had a moral responsibility to rehouse 3.2-million Hong Kong Chinese in the United Kingdom. He inferred that anybody not enthusiastically agreeing with him was clearly racist. Not surprisingly his party sank without trace in the election. It never occurred to him that transporting the entire population of the world's most overpopulated island and dumping them on the world's second most overpopulated island would be viewed not as a worthy act of anti-racism, but as another example of criminal lunacy so characteristic of the Soft Centre of British politics.

Let us be clear about the Hong Kong Chinese. They were not born in Britain - neither were any of their ancestors. They have never visited Britain. Their way of life is not British. The fact that some mischievous politician gave them a piece of paper entitling them to citizenship does not make them British if the word has to have any meaning.

Britain cannot become the Social Welfare Worker of the world. If 3.2-million Hong

Kong Chinese, plus another 2.8-million entitled to apply for British citizenship want to flee the Communist takeover, surely Taiwan is the natural home for anti-Red Chinese? Or some other uninhabited group of islands in the South China Seas. The United Nations could earn its keep for a change by organising the exodus.

Already we are being told that the British economy would benefit from the entrepreneurial spirit of the Chinese that this instant 10% increase in our population would bring. That the success of 'Made in Hong Kong' is because Chinese businessmen somehow have sharper brains than their British counterparts.

But not that, in spite of 'modern technology', it is based on cheap sweated labour which at the last count has destroyed 10 major British industries since the war.

Some shrill voice in the Hong Kong legislature are even demanding that just when Britain is to give up her last colony, we should resume the Imperial mantle and become embroiled in a dangerous dispute with China over the territory's return to Chinese sovereignty in 1997.

I would suggest that an update of Mosley's 1939 "Britons fight for Britain only" policy says it all: "Europeans fight for Europe only".

In the end it is up to the British people to make their views known. Do not let the politicians betray you again. Write to your MP. To the editor of your daily newspaper. Organise a petition among

your friends, neighbours, family and work-mates.

You have the right not to remain silent. You have indeed you have a duty not to do so.

To your children and your children's children.

SALUTE TO PERON

The late Juan Peron of Argentina was part of the Modern Movement.

The economic policies of his Justicialist Party had much in common with Mosley's post-war syndicalist proposals.

In 1950 Mosley visited Argentina for talks with the Government, and during 1960s he suggested including this part of South America in United Europe as part of Europe Overseas.

Any early hope of this sank with the Belgrano in the Falklands War, which should have been avoided by a clear statement of intentions and firm negotiations.

Instead, Galtieri and Thatcher presided over a conflict the cost the lives of hundreds of young Britons and Argentinians while serving to divert attention from internal economic problems in both countries.

It does not pass unnoticed that the period of Peron's greatest influence could well occur after his death, and there are many wishing to congratulate the Peronist Movement on its recent victory.

The new President, Carlos Menem, has a penchant for silk shirts and has a flamboyant life style and one hopes his new government unites the Argentinian people with constructive policies of economic reform based on enterprise and justice and avoids military adventures as the means to claim territories in which Argentinians do not live.

Then perhaps all the 'descendants', the 'shirtless ones' so close to the heart of Juan Peron, will one day be wearing silk shirts.

WHAT ANNIVERSARY?

50 YEARS AGO Britain declared war on Germany and started World War II and is being commemorated.

Considering it lost us our dominant role in the world we would have thought it best forgotten. Only the courage and sacrifice and deaths of our British people are worth commemorating.

It would seem however that historically the real start of World War II was within two months of Hitler achieving power in Germany, according to the "Daily Express" of March 14 1933. We cannot recall any official commemoration?

JUDEA DECLARES WAR ON GERMANY

Mr. Churchill's Withering Attack On Premier

OFFICER Describes THE Girl

BOUGHT US Mrs. George Lansbury Dead

THE BOVET. LANSBURY ENTERTAINS

BOYCOTT OF GERMAN GOODS

SALE OF LOVE IN BERLIN

THE BOVET. LANSBURY ENTERTAINS

"I too can hiss the
hair of men erect,
because my lips are
venomous with truth"

Roy Campbell

COBRA

ORCHESTRATED DISCO FOR DESERT ISLE DIANA

I see that well-known publicist and Labour MP Greville Janner has unselfishly sacrificed a little of his valuable time in the important dedicated pursuit of ageing so-called war criminals, to initiate the campaign - though some might call it a vendetta - to persuade the BBC to withdraw Lady Mosley's *Desert Island Discs* programme which was recorded to appear on September 17. It was "too close to the 50th Anniversary of the war" and thus "insensitive".

First to jump on the 'eye for an eye' brigade's bandwagon was Sunday Telegraph columnist Mandrake, devoting the major part of his column to a personal-sounding nastiness. Lady Mosley's "sins are long past" - Mosley "surrounded by thugs" and their jailing without charge or trial in the last war just "one of the smaller injustices of the period".

Persuaded to defend himself in a later column by reason of dissenting readers - those who "whenever a newspaper slights Mosley's memory, bombards editors with enough to give the impression that the country is full of retired British fascists", he indulged in some further defamation, such as "That some Mosleyites died fighting Hitler is irrelevant. Plenty more would have collaborated had he conquered us", and left on holiday where he

might ponder on his excellent choice of pseudonym: a poisonous plant with a yellow flower, subject of many strange fancies'.

By now the Board of Deputies of British Jews orchestra were pulling at the strings, and the programme was moved to 8 October. Which was then found to be the Jewish Yom Kippur, so after further goadings the BBC switched again to 1 October. This was then found to be the second day of the Jewish New Year.

"First they want to put it out on Christmas Day, now they're planning to broadcast it at New Year" said Mr. Bayim Pinner, the Board's secretary general who has written to the programme presenter Sue Lawly and deputy chairman of BBC's board of governors, Lord Barnett, who is Jewish, asking for the programme to be dropped.

Lady Mosley 'most appropriate'

Mr. Pinner has also suggested that it would be more appropriate to have a former soldier on the programme.

Most of the fair and unbiased British I would suggest, once they were aware of the facts, that Lady Mosley's brother, Major The Hon. Tom Mitford, was killed in action in Burma, and that the First Official Casualties of the war were two of her husband's young supporters, would decide that Lady Mosley a very



Diana Mosley: radio guest

appropriate person to be on that programme near to the 50th Anniversary of the Declaration of War that they believed to be unnecessary and disastrous for their country for which in those circumstances their deaths scaled the ultimate of patriotism and sacrifice.

So to be or not to be? A BBC spokesman has said that the programme will be transmitted on 1 October, but we shall see. By Government and other secret pressures they managed to keep Mosley off the air for some 30 years in a land where the politicians pay non-stop lip service to freedom of speech, but in practise participate in back stage management of restricting that freedom to those whose voice or presence would highlight the pigmy politicians are.

I think it was Mosley who said that whatever one does in England, 'there is bound to be a law making it illegal'. Perhaps they will try that one on Lady Mosley.

'A Whiter Shade of Pale'

Perhaps I can give them some help here. In a BBC restricted choice, Lady Mosley has chosen for one of her discs, Procal Harum's pop song: *A Whiter Shade of Pale*, which those for whom race relations is big business could claim to contravene the Race Relations Acts. Just a banned programme for Lady Mosley, but possibly jail for Cobra for printing it.

Writing on Mr. Janner in the Daily Telegraph, that doyen of newspaper satirists Peter Siple hits the target of truth and satire.

"While he is about it, why doesn't he try to get Lady Mosley prosecuted as a 'war criminal'? The only part the Mosley's played in the war was to try to stop this country being involved in it, for which they were interned. But this sensitive champion of justice for all should not be deterred by little details like that."

The BBC's part in all this is questionable. They must

have released the news of Lady Mosley's broadcast, and anticipated the reaction in specific areas, yet when the Janners of this world turn on the pressure they dither and dither.

Yet they have kept very quiet about another programme on which Lady Mosley will be heard. And on that 'sensitive' September 3.

Or will her friends this time suggest that her recorded voice, and some other participants, withdraw their permission for broadcast?

Read on.

BBC TRICKERY?

Timed almost to the hour of the 50th Anniversary of the British Declaration of World War 11, BBC's World Service will broadcast a programme featuring Lady Mosley, the editor of *Comrade*, and other supporters who 'continue to revere the memory of Oswald Mosley' and some of those who do not - to give the programme balance.

At least that is how it was put when Friends of O.M. was approached by World Services political correspondent Andrew Whitehead some months ago.

But as I write this over the Bank Holiday weekend my information is that the BBC have titled the programme, due to go out on their World Service at 12.30 on September 3, as "Enemies Within" which you could say somewhat tips the 'balance'.

So to be or not to be? We shall see. Time is short, but a week can be a long time.

Why we should not have gone to war

My headline is taken from a Sunday Telegraph article by Maurice Cowling, who is a fellow of Peterhouse, Cambridge, one of an increasing number of academics taking an alternative view of the last war.

They are fortunate that they are stating their views in 1989. Fifty years ago Mosley was jailed for stating the same views.

My available space permits only brief extracts from Maurice Cowling's article, which are also argued in his *The Impact of Hitler* (now in Chicago University Press paperback, £6.95).

"The Cabinet responded to two sorts of public pressure. The first was from Conservatives who believed that the Empire had to be defended by resisting Hitler in Europe.

HEAR LADY MOSLEY

Sunday 3rd September
BBC World Service
12.30

Sunday 1st October
BBC Radio 4

'Desert Island Discs'
12.15

Subject to alteration

6 COBRA

The second was from the Labour Party and the liberal-left which claimed there was a moral duty to resist Hitler by alliance with the Soviet Union, whether resistance was in British interest and within her capability or not, and whether the Soviet Union was likely to co-operate or not."

"Chamberlain should probably left Hitler and the Czechs to deal with the Sudetan question; he should probably not have paid visits to Hitler, since these merely convinced Hitler that appeasement would involve British interference in his backyard; he should not have made a radical departure in British policy after the German occupation of Prague by giving military guarantees against German expansion in Eastern and South Eastern Europe, since expansion would certainly have had the beneficial effect of entangling Hitler with the Russians."

"It is wrong to assume that a dominant Germany would have been more intolerable to Britain than the Soviet Union was to become, or that British statesmen had a duty to risk British lives to prevent Hitler behaving intolerably to Germans and others. We do not know that Hitler wanted war with Britain; we know only that he wanted war against the Soviet Union, and found himself at war with Britain and France when British indignation turned Chamberlain's political interference at Munich into a military commitment against him."

HESS: COMRADE AND BRITAIN'S SO-CALLED 'WAR CRIMINALS'

Travesty of Justice

As we suggested in our February/March "Comrade" when we reported that Scotland Yard's Serious Crimes Squad had opened investigations into the alleged murder of Rudolf Hess, the cover-up was likely to continue.

It has now been announced that the Director of Public Prosecutions has called off the investigations as there is "insufficient evidence" to justify further inquiries.

Not enough evidence? An infirm 93 year old, too frail to lift his arms above his shoulders, strangles himself with a length of electric flex that a witness has publically stated was still hanging on the wall in its normal place, and apart from the corpse? You don't have to be Agatha Christie to solve that one.

The poor old police were on 'a hiding to nothing' on this one. Obstructed all the way along the line, they had to be, if it became necessary, the scapegoats for the Government's 'whitewash'.

What a contrast between this, a young two year old incident, and the 'result' of the Government's 18-month War Crimes inquiry into suspected 'war criminals' living in this country. Investigating 50-year old 'crimes', taking 'evidence' from Soviet Russia who during

the same period murdered more of their own people than the Germans killed in battle, they have found 'sufficient evidence' to mount criminal prosecutions providing Parliament passes a special Act to deal with it.

What it is suggested is retrospective law, a law which can find one guilty of an act when at the time it was performed it was not an illegal act, a procedure of which the very thought was once totally abhorrent throughout British society.

They Government did it, in effect, with British Union during the war. Not content with imprisoning its members without charge or trial, in itself a negation of the age-old principles of Magna Carta, they prescribed the Movement and then proceeded to lock up its members for their association with it at the time it was a legal organisation.

It was this inglorious principle that was used to stage the Nuremberg Trials, under protest from many of the British legal profession.

Initiated by the victorious Anglo-American Allies, and contravening their own Atlantic Charter which proclaimed that its principles applied to "all nations, all peoples, all States great or small, victor or

vanguished" they created retrospective international law to make damn sure that those in the vanquished nation only, would be found guilty as charged.

In addition, to make doubly sure of the verdicts, they created new rules of evidence for the sole benefit of the prosecution which were totally alien to democratic legal principles, and the inquiry team have proposed similar procedures to enable 'suspects' to be charged in Britain.

They include:

● The use of live TV links to enable 'witnesses' in the Soviet Union to give evidence direct to British courts.

● Video-recorded evidence.

● Evidence taken before a British "commissioner" in the countries where witnesses live, their statements video-taped.

● Recorded statements of dead people admissible as evidence.

● Archive documents authenticated by archivist used as evidence.

In all these cases, the defence will not be able to cross-examine witnesses - they will not be there.

I suggest that this skilled and dedicated committee should investigate the Hess case?

I am sure, with the aid of a few video tapes recorded by our silent and currently unobtainable witnesses, and their own dedication to justice, they would see to it that "Justice must be seen to be done".

Or maybe the Prime Minister could be persuaded to intervene thinking of her great feeling for The Rule of Law.



Visiting an antiquarian bookshop in Reigate, I chanced upon a very old book, "Nature in Downland" by nature writer W.H. Hudson published in 1920, and found this OM quotation in the book pasted to a card.

When I read it I was filled with immeasurable sadness, recalling the monstrous folly of 1939.

Albert Coates, Sutton

The quotation was actually from Mosley's stirring speech at the Albert Hall in March 1935.

Let us complete his passionate appeal to the British to "dare to be great".

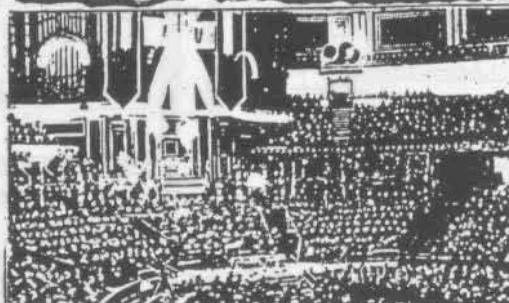
"For this shall be the epic generation which scales again the heights of Time and History to see once more the immortal lights—the lights of sacrifice and high endeavour summoning through ordeal the soul of humanity to the sublime and the eternal. The alternatives of our age are heroism or oblivion. There are no lesser paths in the history of Great Nations. Can we, therefore, doubt which path to choose?"

"Let us to-night at this great meeting give the answer. Hold high the head of England; lift strong the voice of Empire. Let us to Europe and to the world proclaim that the heart of this great people is undaunted and invincible. This flag still challenges the winds of Destiny. This flame still burns. This glory shall not die. The soul of Empire is alive, and England again dares to be great."

BY THEIR STUPENDOUS FOLLY OF 1939, OUR POLITICIANS SIGNED AWAY THE EMPIRE, BUT MOSLEY'S APPEAL FOR GREATNESS, FOR THE BRITISH TO SURPASS THEMSELVES, IS EVEN MORE A NECESSITY OF TODAY IF THIS GREAT PEOPLE ARE TO SURVIVE.

LETTERS to the EDITOR

We cannot sit a privilege to live in an age when England demands that great things shall be done a privilege to be the generation which dares to say what can we give instead of what can we take. For what our generation learns here are greater things than clockwork tools; greater things than safety; more terrible things than death.
Sir Oswald Mosley.
Mar 1936



BEST wishes for a good recovery to old comrade McNeil Sloane in Australia who writes to us after breaking his neck in an accident.



"After a period in intensive care and then 5½ months in various braces I am now

left with restricted movement in my neck" he said.

"Otherwise very fit"!

New Party, BUF "1" Squad and London NHQ led to 188 arrest, escaping between camp transfers. Recaptured he was sent to Peel Concentration Camp, Isle of Man, where he spent much of his time tunneling under the road, but caught within 6 feet of escape, resulting in transfer to Brixton Jail.

There were some who would have wished to break his neck years ago, we have told him—including perhaps at times, Rosetta!

In Memoriam

"Hark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages"



Flo Elliott



Charlie
Watts



Dick
Bellamy



Henry
Williamson



Commander
Carlyon
Bellairs



Jorian
Jenks



Fay
Tylour



Sir Lionel
Berkeley
Holt
Haworth

ANDREWS, W.A.: Sth. Hammersmith Branch BU On 2.9.1938
BARROW, David: BU: UM organiser and speaker, Oxford: In August 1980
BELLAIRS, Commander Carlyon: BU: former MP Maidstone and lecturer RN College: 'Action' contributor: On 22 August 1955
BELLAMY, Richard Reynall 'Dick': BU historian: former Northern Organiser: In August 1988
BOX, H: Westminster St. George's BU Founder member Cab Trade Group: On 9 September 1939
CALLAGHAN, Maj. G.M.: Father of 3 daughter members and husband Woman D/Ldr: In September 1938
DAY, A.E.: E/London BU: Dealer post war of rare books, Dublin.

In September 1974
de LAESSO, Major, DSO MC: BU: detained 188 with Mrs. de Laesso: A founder member Norwich and King's Lynn Union Movement:

In August 1948
DIXON, R. Early member Nelson & Colne BU: In September 1938
DOCVRA, Joe: Hackney BU: 1940-1945 Merchant Navy: On 26 August 1988
DONVILLE, Adm. Sir Barry, KBE CB CMG Former Dir. of Naval Intelligence & Pres. RN College: Founder Anglo-German 'Link': Detained 188: Son also detained, another killed in action 1941: Author 'From Admiral to Cabin Boy' 1947. On 13.9.1971

ELLIOTT, 'Flo': Slough BU: husband detained 188: Founder member Bournemouth UM later Sth. London activist. In September 1982
EVENS, E.C. 'Eddy': Upminster: former Sth. London BU and UM.

On 17 August 1986
HART, E.D.: Research Dept. BU & Ed. "Action" briefly 1940 for which detained 188: Pioneer of UM.

In August 1950
HAWORTH Lt-Col Sir Lionel Berkeley Holt, KBE: KO Yorks Lt. Infantry: 2nd Bombay Lancers & 9th Bombay Inf.: Consul Gen. Meshad, Khurasan & Fars, Khuzestan, and Persian Coasts & Islands: BU Candidate for Chelsea. On 11 Sept 1951

HEYS, Norman: BU Accrington & UM Brighouse. In September 1980
HOLLINGTON, 'Aunt Maud': BU & UM loyal Mosley supporter: At 100: In August 1987

JENKS, Jorian: BU Agricultural Adv. Candidate Horsham & Worthing: Detained 188: UM Agricultural Council. On 20 August 1963

JOHNSON, J.W. Bethnal Green shoemaker & BU member: detained 188. On 8 September 1958

MACE, Reg: Wiltshire. Former BU A/D Ldr Epping. In August 1988
MITCHELL, Andrew W.: Glasgow UM Merchant Navy. Died at sea.

In September 1950
PODMORE, Harold: BU Norwood and London Dist/Insp. In Canada.

In August 1988
ROSMOND, Wm G.: Bethnal Green BU and UM. In September 1952

ROWLANDS, Mrs Martha: BU & mother. BU & UM's Jack Rowlands: At 92: In August 1977

SWIFT, Reginald 'Swifty': Upton BU: In September 1938

TAYLOUR, Fay: 1939s top woman racing driver: Joined BU after start of war and was detained 188: Remained loyal supporter of OM in UM until her death.

On 2 August 1983
WATTS, C.F. 'Charlie': Dist/Insp Westminster St. George BU: Organiser London Cab Trade Group: BU Camp Leader Ascot Concentration Camp. On 26 August 1971
WILLIAMSON Henry: NHQ Branch BU: Author 'Tarka the Otter'. On 13 August 1977

OBITUARY

ALAN HANCOCK

Suddenly in July, **ALAN HANCOCK**, former British Union, Croydon Branch, after several months of semi-immobility following a spine operation, by his own hand.

After the outbreak of war in 1939, Alan took over a leadership role in the activities of his branch, and though not detained, was seriously assaulted before release.

In latter years he started a printing business in Sussex and became internationally known for the publication of historical revisionist literature on the war, and his backing for others working in this field. This made many enemies resulting in the destruction by fire of his print works, but Alan rebuilt it and carried on.

Although he had some reservations regarding Mosley's post-war European policies, his admiration for him remained undimmed.

"A man of tremendous presence. Very approachable and a very likeable man on a man to man to basis. A wonderful man" he recorded on tape for the Mosley Archive shortly before death.

And his concluding remarks were the simple and heartfelt words of the true patriot.

"My experience since 1940 has been one of watching my country going down and down and now, seeing it almost prostrate on the ground. Finished. Everything that Mosley prophesied and said has unfortunately come true. So for me it is a very sad time. I cannot see any future at all unless something that at the moment we cannot foresee enters the arena"

OLD COMRADES



We will remember Alan Hancock as a man of great integrity who never stopped fighting for his beliefs until his defences were overrun.

A true Patriot. And being so would wish his last words be proved mistaken.

Despite the circumstances of his death, Alan Hancock would approve of continued fight for survival of the land he loved.

All is not lost. The fight goes on.

W.A.J. M'KINLEY

As we go to press we learn of the death a few weeks ago of **Mr. W.A.J. M'Kinley**, a familiar figure at Mosley Movement gatherings for many years.

Mr. M'Kinley, who lived at Balham, had we believe severe Parkinsons disease, and because of this he will probably be remembered.

THE VICTORY SERVICES CLUB

THE HIGH COST of accommodation in London in addition to travelling expenses prohibits the attendance of a number of our old comrades at our Annual Commemoration Dinner.

For those who have been in the services, we would remind them that the Victory Services Club at Marble Arch is still going strong and has excellent facilities for a London base.

The Membership Fee has recently been increased to £7.50, but this gives an entitlement to bedroom accommodation which at £11.70 - £15 for single rooms, and £30 for double makes it well worth while.

Addr: 63/79 Seymour St. W2 2HP

The Commemoration Dinner

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 18th 1989

Make your reservation

FRIENDS OF O.M. Greater Manchester * AFTERNOON BUFFET * Sunday September 24 1989

COMRADE

NEWSLETTER OF FRIENDS OF O.M.

NO.21:OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 1989

"The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow"



"To expect anything else is to believe that the tiger will change overnight to a vegetarian diet, because a missionary has preached to him a sermon in favour of lettuce. If he considers vegetarianism for even a passing moment, it is only to get a better chance of eating the missionary." Mosley on Soviet Russia. "Europe:Faith and Plan:1958"

GORBACHEV



The Rhetoric and the REALITY

"We are moving towards a new world, the world of Communism. We will never turn off that road."

the production of their long-range cruise missiles has tripled, new mobile SS24s and 25s are being deployed, and first strike SS-18s with 10 warheads are being modernised.

In the 1930s, a visit to 'the workers paradise', as many then believed, by TUC General Secretary Sir Walter Citrine resulted in his book "I Search for Truth in Soviet Russia".

He should have known that the last place to look for elusive equality was the land to whom Lenin had bequeathed "Truth a petty bourgeois prejudice", and the reality is that little has changed.

For behind the Mona Lisa smile, and a vast public relations exercise to portray Marxism with a human face pursuing a 'democratic road to socialism', and suggested retreat from the goal of world Communism, he was, in a speech at the 70th anniversary of the Bolshevik revolution two years ago, reaffirming the Marxist objective of the Communist world.

What he did not say, but it would be already known and understood by the Kremlin old guard, was that the Communist system was finally going bankrupt and that it was time to make the classic Marxist retreat when faced with superior force.

The superior force was West's deployment of Pershing-2 and Cruise missiles which the Moscow orchestrated agitation had failed to prevent.

Confirmation of the perilous state of the system's

Western liberals and some who should no better, is the reality.

What is that Russia is still spending 20pc of its wealth each year on defence and the last four years it has risen by 3pc each year.

Nearly 3,500 tanks, 600 a year more than the Brezhnev days, have been rolling out of Soviet factories since Gorbachev came to power.

Its navy is being expanded and modernised. Two aircraft carriers are being built, and a frigate, three destroyers and a third guided missile cruisers were added to the fleet last year.

In many ways its navy is more powerful than the US Navy, with 385 submarines, the world's largest. It is nearly three times those in service with the US, and includes the Typhoon class, the largest undersea craft in the world.

With 1,650 aircraft in its naval air arm, it is larger than the combined British, French and West German air forces.

And though they make a show of their willingness to negotiate a few of their (obsolete) rockets away,

"I CAN DO BUSINESS with Mr. Gorbachev", said Mrs. Thatcher after her first meeting with the new Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev. Surely, one of the most foolish remarks made by a British Prime Minister.

Churchill said something similar about Josef Stalin after signing the 1941 pact between Britain and the Soviet Union. He also said it was to shape "new freedom and glory for all mankind".

The reality has been almost 50 years of subjection of Eastern Europe to the 'liquidation' of countless thousands of its peoples.

And behind the 'glasnost' and 'perestroika' and the Gorbachev, gaining acceptance as the architect of the Soviet terror machine by

MOSLEY RIGHT

"Can you imagine that the Soviets are going in the moment of success to betray every principle in which they have ever believed? They clearly will not do so after they have got what they want, which is rapid equipment at the expense of the West, and free equipment when the loans are repudiated because they need no more assistance".

Mosley, Europe:Faith and Plan:1958

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939-1945

"What though we ourselves be slain,
This, our faith can never die!"

BANGS Lt. Jack P.L.:
R. Sussex Regt [attached Gloucesters]: Age 20:
Killed in action 3 Nov. 1944: Buried Geel War Cemetery, Belgium: One of three Brighton Branch British Union members known to have been killed in action in World War II.

BUCKNELL Sgt. Ronald:
RAF VR: 83 Sqdn: Killed in action in Berlin operation 15 November 1940 Age 24: Remembered on Runnymede Air Force Memorial. Member Croydon Branch British Union:

GILLIES W/O John H:
RAF VR: 511 Sqdn: Killed in ops. 30 November 1943. Age 26: Remembered on Runnymede Air Force Memorial: British Union speaker and one of three pupils of Leyton County High School who joined Leytonstone Branch known to have been killed in Services in World War II.

LINK Pte W.F.:
RDE: Killed in action 27 October 1944, France: Remembered on Services Memorial, Norwood Cemetery, Lambeth: Member of Norwood Branch British Union.

WHITE Lt. Albert E:
RNR: Killed in action HM Trawler "Northern Rover" 5 November 1939: Leicester Branch Br. Union: Remembered on Lowestoft War Memorial.

finances was given last July when Soviet economist Nikolai Shmelyov suggested ways to raise or save hard currency.

A member of the new Soviet parliament, he had previously told them they were heading for a financial crash by 1992 unless harsh measures were taken.

Now he was telling them that the Soviet Union needed £9,500m in cash immediately and £3-4,000m a year for the next two or three years in borrowing from Western nations, which should be used to 'modernise' outdated factories".

WEAR A RED ROSE
ON MOSLEY DAY

The Commemoration Dinner
SATURDAY NOVEMBER 18th 1989

WEAR A RED ROSE
ON MOSLEY DAY

(Our unique comradeship throughout remains precious.....Before we go we must not cease to plant the seed for our replacements.....)

C.W.Dods 1981

ALL OUR YESTERDAYS



Bill Dods flanks O.M. on Union Movement's first march on May Day 1948 in Dalston

For Britain's TOMORROW

By Bill Dods

NOT LONG before he died in October 1984, BILL DODS gave his views on the past, the present, and the part to be played by Mosley's old comrades in his vision of the future, in a letter to the editor.

"Comrade" had not yet been born so we now publish his letter in tribute to his memory.

A pre-war member of Croydon British Union, he was Accounts Inspector in the early days of Union Movement.

MOST OF US have spent the best part of our lives associated with Oswald Mosley, sharing his ideas and serving the Movement to propagate them.

Economically the aim was to create in our self-sufficient part of the world, a stable market based on wages adequate to absorb modern production. The international cut-throat trade racket with its Communist camp followers has beaten us in what may be called "the first half".

How did this happen?

Each decade between the wars of the old system saw the adoption of the new idea by a

European nation desperately weakened by 1918 and menaced by Communism.

Italy in the 1920s, Germany in the 1930s, and if our German companions had not queered the pitch by letting themselves be led unnecessarily into the second war required by International Finance for its survival, it would have been our turn in the 1940s to do the job properly.

If only we had all been entirely exhausted and ruined together in 1918 as was to happen in 1945, Fascism could have got off to a concerted European start instead of going off in separate ways as each nation collapsed in successive decades.

Mosley stressed the need for European Union in the Fascist

Quarterly long before the last war. Without that war, recovery from the classical Slump in this, the key country, would have been impossible for the Old Gang but just the job for British Union Government.

"Fascism means War" was as false as it was cunning. The Truth was "Anti-fascism means War"; after all Germany had recovered miraculously WITHOUT war, but Hitler allowed himself to be misled into sabre-rattling which effectively put an end to British Union and its hopes and dreams.

In the aftermath of the Brother's War, "recovery" has gone on with massive borrowing from - apart from Soviet Russia - the only winner, the United States to whom we have been totally subordinated, from Churchill onwards.

Without Mosley, the Common Market has been 'a half lark' and we are today more than ever at the mercy of his *bête noire*, World Trade.

Before the war British Union could struggle effectively, given the previously mentioned time lag: since, exclusion from newspapers and TV has prevented fair and adequate impact of vital ideas, developed by Mosley, for some time before his death, the sole survivor of the pre-war leadership.

Europe: Mosley its principle architect

Our unique comradeship throughout remains ever precious as our country, propped up for a few years by North Sea oil totters on the brink, far worse for us than if ever was fifty years ago.

Thanks to all those comrades of British Union and Union Movement, many of whom grew from youth to age and died in Mosley and Britain's cause, there is a blueprint on the drawing board.

Out of that inevitable long-delayed crash, fate could produce heavyweights unknown at present

as were Mosley and other European leaders before 1920. They would take over as 'contractors' on the demolition site (which is what Europe has become under existing management) and commence to build the structure whose principle architect was Oswald Mosley.

"What fifth column let them in from Brixton onwards"

Is demolition too strong a word when we also consider such oddments as the state of defence - including Eastern Europe handed on a plate with Churchill's sword gift to the Moscow tyrant; "foreign" exchange still preferred to a European currency - imagine America with about fifty currencies, not to mention fifty armies; the Northern Ireland débacle; our welfare state run on inflation of the currency and the bureaucracy; our education and training a ruinously expensive shambles and finally the "ethnic" army of occupation more shameful than military defeat [what fifth column let them in from Brixton onwards?]

Before we go we must not cease to plant the seed for our replacements if we are to come out top in the 'second half'.

When real things have to be done men emerge by reason of their ideas and personality in response to the situation....The ultimate emergence of such a man is a certainty, because history - like nature - allows no vacuum, while great people still retain the will to live

O.M. "Mosley - Right or Wrong?"

1 GORBACHEV

Mosley saw it all thirty years ago and warned of such events.

He nevertheless insisted that the West should maintain a permanent dialogue with the Soviets because 'we live in the same world', but a debate backed by the strength of our defences, and realisation of the Soviet 'double-talk'.

And Gorbachev's gamble may not have allowed enough for the upsurge of nationalism in Eastern Europe and some Soviet states, a situation which when the time is right could still be squashed by a regime trained only to rule by terror.

The West should also take head of a striking miner in the Western Siberian city of Novokuznetsk last July who said to Sunday Telegraph correspondent John Kampfner: "I don't trust Gorbachev and I don't believe him. Nor does ninety per cent of the population"

And keep its powder dry.

"I too can kiss the hair of men erect, because my lips are venomous with truth"

Roy Campbell

COBRA

'Puppet on a String'

My Mole in the Board of Deputies of British Jews, that august body renowned putting the interests of the Jewish people first, tells me that the four times postponed DESERT ISLAND DISCS BBC broadcast featuring Lady Mosley is now arranged for Nov 26.

Since receiving a letter to this effect from BBC Chairman Marmaduke Hussey, a research into the Jewish Calendar has not revealed any more than normal Jewish 'sensitivity' for that date.

Previous dates postponed after pressure from the Board, other Jewish fundamentalists and friendly Fleet Street hacks: Sep 17 - 'too close to 50th Anniversary of war'; Oct 1 - 'second day of Jewish New Year'; Oct 8 - 'Yom Kippur, Jewish Christmas Day'; Nov 19 - 'Jewish ex-servicemen march to the Cenotaph'.

What this has to do with an English elderly lady choosing her musical favourites and answering questions on her life is a question that bewilders the light-entertainment radio public. Even if she, among others, did comment favourably a long time ago on the man who was the sworn Jewish enemy, but now dead for over half-a-century.

I have heard it said that TV could develop further this almost unbelievable but true life drama. By the same team

that produced 'The Minister for Silly Walks'.

And if the new date again proves 'sensitive', why not fix it for the eve of the Christian Day? It is a Sunday, the 'Desert Discs' day, and this would surely not pose a problem for the Jewish ethnic minority.

It would also move it off a full agenda and permit more time for the publicity campaign to persuade Parliament bring in that new retrospective law. That which though alien to British legal tradition, would permit the harassment, hunting, and maybe hanging of old men, chosen as show trial 'war criminals', their 'guilt' already assumed by way of most dubious evidence.

All to stop anti-semitism which they say is again rising. Adolf Hitler is now long gone, so who or what is now the cause?

They should look within themselves. Are there no wise Jewish elders left to warn them of the dangers of the road they tread?

RED SAILS IN THE SUNSET

IT CAN'T BE SUCH FUN being an old-time British Communist these days.

The kind that cut their teeth on the Spanish Civil War and stayed loyal through Hungary in '56 and Czechoslovakia in '68.

Until some five years ago large chunks of the world were still falling to Russia. You could still put your faith in the inevitability of gradualism. But then the dream of One-World ruled from Moscow suddenly turns into a CPGB veteran's nightmare. Along comes a Soviet Premier who starts doing more than a passable imitation of a Lick-Spittle Lackey of American Capitalism. He wants to introduce private enterprise, free the satellite states of Eastern Europe and replace the Dictatorship of the Proletariat with multi-party elections. Many a wrinkled Red Crusader must be holding his head in his hands and wondering if it was all worthwhile.

But cheer up, everything may not be as bad as it seems. The latest figures show clearly that Soviet military strength has actually increased over the past year and not fallen as the casual reader of tabloid newspapers might suppose. The most spectacular increase being in new tanks recently delivered.

IT WAS Friday the First of September and the radio announcements were requesting all reservists to report to their regiments.

I can vividly recall dressing in the B.D., as it was called, ready to go off, and report to my T.A. battalion of the Oxford and Bucks L.I. Buttoning the jacket and going downstairs to say goodbye to my Father and Mother.

My father's eyes had tears in them, because, as he firmly maintained, it was suicidal to even contemplate a second war with Germany. I can see and hear his voice now; a former regular soldier before 1914 in the H.L.I., and later mentioned in Despatches for service with the R.F.C. A strong supporter of British Union and its policies.

The state of affairs in the British Army in 1939 was such that all the Bren L.M.G.'s were taken away from my battalion, because there were not enough to go round. This unreadiness and the real voices of Britain were ignored when the politicians launched their war against Germany in 1939.

THOUGHTS THAT COME IN A

By GORDON BECKWELL



A Column of Forward Looking personal views on Mosley Thought

And while Solidarity has been given the Polish Economy to run, control of foreign policy and defence remains firmly in Communist hands.

It looks like the idea is to 'franchise' out of the running of industry to the group best able to produce results, and use the greater wealth to pursue Soviet aims by other methods.

But if every card-carrier in the West was let into the secret, the whole brilliant master plan would soon be rumbled.

Chin up, Old Timer, it may not be curtains for communism after all.

A ROSE BY ANY OTHER NAME

We don't see the Polish community in Britain getting hot under the collar if you call them 'Poles'.

A Russian emigre would hardly feel deeply insulted if he was referred to as a 'Russki'.

And it is hard to believe that any citizen of Britain would run whining to the Race Relations Board if addressed by the diminutive of 'Brit'.

But if a British child refers to a Pakistani as a 'Paki', he can be expelled from school and his family threatened with eviction from their council home.

A small problem compared with the hole in the ozone layer, maybe.

But another example that 'multiracialism' doesn't work if such a minor matter causes such a furious response.

FAILURE OF A MISSION

In business life any expenditure of energy and resources is later assessed to see if it met its objectives. Now that the media hype of the 50th anniversary of the War has subsided, let us apply the same logic to that event and re-state our view.

Going to the Wars

British Union historian DICK BELLAMY's memories of the start of World War II used in the last "Comrade", has vividly reminded Desmond Irvine of some of his memories of the European tragedy, which he insists was:

Not A War—Not A Crusade—it was "THE WARS"

This year's so-called 'remembrances' of 1939/45 are an insult and blasphemy against the proud character of the historical essences of this, our Land. To mention the words 'crusade against nazism' is not only absurd, but does not even give credence to the exact words used by the Prime Minister when he made his radio broadcast at eleven o'clock on Sunday 3rd September '39 which I heard whilst on Guard pickets with my company.

Contrary to what has been put out by the BBC and ITV, MY FIRM IMPRESSION was that the real mood of the people of Britain could be summed as: 'a most regrettable second war against Germany; which

we trust will be resolved without bloodshed, and to the mutual interests of the two countries, which should be natural friends.'

Most of the broadcasts and so-called 'facts' about the war craftily edited; the final insult to all who died for Britain was the picture of Miss Sue Lawley, backed by a swastika flag, claiming to represent, 'the authentic news bulletins of the days leading up to the war.'

Looking around our land, many of us will echo anew the words of Byron on Wellington's campaigns:

'...and I shall be delighted to learn who, save you and yours have gained by

The War was ostensibly declared to protect the sovereignty of Poland. 45 years of Russian rule followed. The War was supposed to make Europe safe for democracy. By 1948 there were more dictatorships than ten years previous. It was supposed to safeguard Britain's First Power status. It lost us all of our national wealth, our Empire, and reduced us to a third-rate power.

It was supposed to save persecuted minorities, but most of them perished as a direct result of it. It was supposed to safeguard the interests of the 'freedom loving' peoples of the world but about sixty million died. It was supposed to produce a better world. The nuclear age and the Broadwater Estate followed. Whatever the yardstick, the War didn't succeed in any of its goals.

It might have been thought that once this was realised the British people would have turned to Mosley in his post-war Union Movement, born out of his pre-war British Union who had prophesied so correctly the folly of it all. But people who had given 6 years of their lives and endured terrible losses could not be expected to admit it was all for nothing. They had to believe it was for something worthwhile.

Only now, when a new generation can apply logic, are voices outside our ranks beginning to point out that the war was bad value for money and sad news for everything British.

| Waterloo? ...

The television 'media' take good care to prevent intensely personal memoirs from being made public. I recall an incident in 1943 of the sort of 'memoir' which would never be given 'media' time.

In the autumn of that year, stationed temporarily at Kempston Barracks, and strolling in Bedford town near the Bunyan statue, and I was drawn to a meeting of the local Communist Party, a harried haranguing the crowd about the urgent necessity to 'put Mosley back in goal.'

Leaflets were being handed around asking for signatures to bring pressure on their friends in Parliament to enable this be accomplished.

As I arrived, two members of the RAF protested vigorously at what they thought was an unfair and malicious campaign of lies and Libels, and it gave me great pleasure to see the chagrin and dismay on the faces of the local Stalinists.

Bunyan visualised Valiant—for Truth, a concept also foreseen by Nietzsche and Shaw.

Sir Oswald Mosley was the bearer of that accolade in our times.

MOSLEY



The Man

By RONALD CREAMY

OUR AIMS have never been of vapid words such as we may read in The Times or the furbished News of The World in the setting of The Sun.

Mosley was always direct with his remarkable gift of being concise in every word used and I endeavour to take his example.

It is salutary that we should be aware of the stratum dream of Democracy to subdue the natural wisdoms of the proletariat to the level of stupidity attained by the pretensions of the middle section. Mosley established the sanity of a classless creed in which we were all as one, allowing for diversification in those spheres of the unavoidable dictates of creation.

Exemplified, we stand united in the cause and fulfilment of the sanity and precepts laid down by the life of Mosley.

We know our Leader was of the firmaments, born of their genes, in which he could have taken mankind to a happiness and greater prosperity than ever known.

We feel his feelings as he watched the shredding of civilisation in economic despair and moral degradation.

The effect must not be one of disappointment, but one to sustain his uplift in every endeavour we are left to employ.

The stars he placed so high shall not diminish in their light, but remain as a beacon and guide in the years to come.

How can we expect a harvest of thought without a seedtime of character?

RONALD CREAMY was British Union District Leader and Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for the Constituency of Eye, Norfolk

'Mosley sowed the seed'

Mosley sowed the seed for us to reap and perpetuate with continued planting.

The battles of the past, fought and won against the overwhelming, adversary of a corrupt power and its vicious henchmen, bear witness to the courage and endurance of Mosley and those who trod his path.

Mosley was as much aware of the past and the present, as of the future which is indivisible, and the early struggles to protect the seedling a legacy for those to come.

Mosley always had his many unconscious as conscious followers. Men like Sir Laurens van der Post who in one of his books writes "We have not got the right people at the top. We do not know ourselves sufficiently. We have not faced up to the fact that we ourselves, not our stars, are the source of the error, and that until we have dealt with the error in ourselves we cannot deal properly with what is wrong with the world."

It was because we dealt with the errors in ourselves that many of us turned to the advanced thinking of Oswald Mosley in his struggle to create an enlightened future.

Twentieth century poet Dryden gave his verdict on his lifetime and on the Restoration Court in words which equally apply today. Most certainly in 1939.

All of a piece throughout.
Thy chase had a beast
in view.

Thy wars brought nothing
about;
Thy lovers were all untrue,
Tis well an old age is out,
And time to begin a new.

As with Mosley and through him, we are the precursors of a new age. We must not fail him. The soul is unquenchable, the spirit undefeated in a spiral which knows no end.

Norfolk born Thomas Paine, at one time lauded in England, America and France, said he was certain that when opinions are free in Government or religion, truth would finally powerfully prevail. It was because of his books "The Age of Reason" and "The Rights of Man" that every ignominy was chrown upon him by the evil forces that feared him both in the theological and political field of sophistry.

In any given age, if there is no truth in history there is no progress.

In our age, within the boundary of our Nation, the greatest man of unvarnished truth was Oswald Mosley. He alone assailed the heights of illustrious fame in which those who followed him or his precepts were privileged to

play a part, fearlessly and resolutely.

Fear without courage can be venomous. Not only did Mosley have outstanding courage without the slightest fear, but he also imparted this, and virility, to his supporters by example, his resoluteness and stamina in face of every vicious adversary.

'In return we gave our loyalty'

With his background, security and independence, we can consider the comfortable life he could have lived instead of sacrificing himself for the benefit of humanity.

He taught us the virtue of sacrificing ourselves from any past mode of living. He gave strength and purpose. In return we gave him our loyalty.

Mosley was part of an evolutionary force which now hesitates in the background, but will inevitably choose its time to continue its advance in the dictates of creation.

When I and my eternal companions are dimmed by the rules of mortality, we will remain with the spirit that has gone before, in the image wherein rests the salvation of the soul in which the generations to come will also find their guidance and peace.

And what he said

LET US SEEK THE FIRST REALITY OF EUROPEAN UNION; WHERE DOES IT RESIDE AND OF WHAT DOES IT CONSIST said Oswald Mosley in "Union" on 15 May 1948. We continue with his words, just as relevant today.

RACES

THE FIRST REALITY OF EUROPEAN UNION

Race is the first reality of European Union. The rest is mostly words, like the old League of Nations. This unique stock of men in Europe has in fact produced the culture, the values and the achievement of the West. This race, in their family of Europe, have produced most things that matter on this globe. This achievement has been the result of their character which in turn was the result of their race. Horses go further and faster than donkeys, because they are horses and not donkeys. We cannot avoid the basic facts of nature, even if we would. Nor can we drown them beneath a verbiage of words. If we are to build surely we must build on real foundations, and know what we do.

Therefore I affirm the fact that the first reality and rock foundation of European Union is race. That is what I meant by the idea of kinship, which was stated in my essay "The Extension of Patriotism" in 1946.

Who are our nearest kindred? The answer is the German people. The British and the Germans are the most closely related of all European peoples. The Northern French also belong to this close circle of race or family, and were united with the Germans under Charlemagne. Near in blood to us, and the Germans, are the whole Northern block of Sweden, Norway and Denmark. A related stock is also the great family of the Latin nations, whose culture has adorned the illuminated pages of European history. European Union requires all these peoples. All that matters in the past they have in common; the future can belong to all of them.

What today is the first lack in the Union of Europe? It is that the people who are most nearly related to us in blood and race are divided in their lands and population and subjected by British Government, and others, to an alien oppression. The Unity of Germany and full restoration of all her lands and peoples is the first necessity of European Union. While we permit German lands and people to be divided and subjected both to Russian Communism and to a variety of alien occupations we commit a crime against our own blood. You cannot deny nature; you cannot create in defiance of reality. The Germans must and will unite in freedom: this is the principle which I ask the kindred people of Britain to affirm and, in so doing, to build the Europe of the future on foundations which will endure. Union Movement declares the right of each great people of Europe to unite, and then, as a united people, to enter the wider Union of Europe.

OSWALD MOSLEY

CORRECTION...CORRECTION...CORRECTION...CORRECTION...CORRECTION...CORRECTION

TWELVE MONTHS of detention is a long time in the comparatively short history of British Union. Yet it seems to have passed quickly and not entirely without variety - Brixton and Stafford Prisons - Military Intelligence third degree hell Ham Common - Ascot and Huyton Concentration Camps - and finally deportation and exile on the Isle of Man at Peveril Camp, Peel.

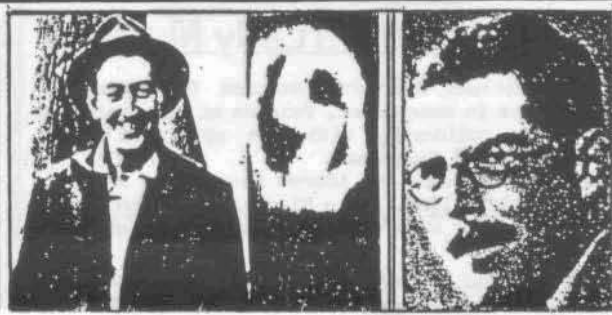
To some of us it has not been a waste of time as new friends have been made and old ones consolidated. In various ways we prepare for the future. And let us have no delusion as to the enormity of this task. As I sit in my little room looking out over the sea, I sometimes wonder - will we have faith enough to carry us through?

I think of the Leader, locked up in a prison cell at Brixton - we, his Blackshirts, idling away in exile here at Peel - the Movement outside blasted to the four winds by restrictions, war service, air-raids and evacuation - wives, children and relatives scattered all over the country, largely living on charity and relief - whole Districts bombed and blitzed out of existence - we shall need all the faith in the world to face this chaos.

Twelve months of detention can also seem a very long time if one continually stops to think back and dwell upon the bad parts.

The interminable nervous strain of worrying about the loved ones at home, subjected to air-raids all the time and living God knows how - is partly compensated by the knowledge of the splendid heroic fight they are putting up against heavy odds - the long hours of loneliness in prison cells - the petty persecution by ghouls disguised as prison warders - the bad organisation and callous indifference to and mishandling of personal matters by solicitors and shops assistants dressed up as Officers and Gentlemen of the British Army - the long delay in letters due to censoring inefficiency which makes it absolutely impossible to keep coherent touch with home affairs - the terrible injustice of being here at all

Sorry-Charlie, Jorian



In our last **COMRADE** we featured our old comrade **JORIAN JENKS**, and included his own words after 12 months as a British political prisoner.

It seems that gremlins entered the editor's office and transposed Jorian's typed copy for a similar treatise penned by old comrade **CHARLIE WATTS** at the same time in 1941.

We now publish the accurate versions of "Twelve months in detention" by **JORIAN JENKS**, 'Blackshirt, farmer, and the First Green', and **CHARLIE WATTS**, 'British Union Leader at Ascot Concentration Camp, District Leader and Inspector, Organiser London Cab Group and Black-shirt extraordinary'.

and branded as traitors, in spite of the fact that the first name on the First Casualty List was a Blackshirt and one of the four battalions that held the Germans at Calais long enough to enable the main body of troops to evacuate from Dunkirk, and was almost completely wiped out in what has been described as one of the most heroic actions of the war, was heavily dominated by Blackshirts recruited in East London. And herded together in the same camp with Italians, Germans and Jews and renegade Englishmen, some of them violently anti-British - these are but a few of the things which make twelve months seem a lifetime.

But twelve months of detention has also shown another side of the picture.

On looking through this booklet (an exercise book of which six copies were made - Ed.) one comes across names of men: Battersby, Bellamy, Dickinson, Ilett, George, Richards, Patterson, Reynolds, King, Charnley and others of equal calibre not mentioned: - Whelan, Watson, Osborne, Rigby, Tierney,

and many others, not forgetting your name and mine - [this copy was for Arthur Beavan-Ed] men of all types and ages - men of all religions and walks of life - and typical of thousands scattered all over the country and in every service - many alas having paid the supreme sacrifice to their Country - men whose names have not been blazoned to the general public in newspaper headlines except in court cases on political charges - men who have pledged themselves to Mosley and to Britain and who are ready and waiting to follow our great Leader in the service of our Country wheresoever he may lead; if necessary - and perhaps for some of us - to death.

Yes, with men like these, twelve months of detention, granted to us because of our fervent belief in our political patriotism seems worthwhile and realize that there is no need to wonder.

The faith is there. The Spirit is there. The Sacred Flame can never be extinguished.

CHARLIE WATTS

MY IMPRESSIONS of Huyton Camp are dominated by an atmosphere of reality. Here are we, boxed up in a few suburban streets, surrounded by barbed wire, and forbidden to do anything, write anything, almost to say anything, that is of the slightest significance.

While all around us, practically before one's eyes, events are taking place that will shape the course of history for decades, perhaps centuries to come. By the time this cataclysm is over, the world that we left 12 months ago will have been altered out of all recognition.

For our own country, these rumour-ridden days and raid-racked nights are pregnant with tragedy.

For however true it may be that the old order must die before the new can be born, there can be no death without sorrow and suffering.

What is it but tragedy that a great Empire should be fitter away by a gang of careerists who are prepared to sacrifice all in the furtherance of their own selfish interests?

What is it but tragedy that innocent women and children should be buried beneath the wreckage of their own houses, while no less innocent lads are sent to their death in the sky, on the seas, or in some foreign land?

Seen against this terrific background, the events of the camp itself are like a puppet show. The gross injustice of imprisonment without charge or trial, the pettish vindictiveness of a corrupt administration, the buffoonery of stupid civilians masquerading in military uniform, the utterly unnecessary little hardships and indignities inflicted on us daily for no other reason than that we sought to expose the betrayal of our country: all these have become ludicrous, even comic, like a lapdog's shrill defiance of a raging storm.

In one respect only is it possible to take them seriously, namely the grievous hardship that has been inflicted on our wives and families. That will be remembered longest and with least charity.

The only solid landmarks in this nightmarish atmosphere are our faith in our Leader and our Cause. Common faith and common loyalty have bred a spirit of comradeship which has survived, with negligible casualties, nearly a year of confinement, enforced idleness and continual nervous strain.

That it will survive the greater trial that lies ahead, the immense efforts that the Leader will demand of us all, we can no longer doubt.

JORIAN JENKS

LETTERS to the EDITOR

Jorian ahead of his time

Thoughts Upon a Peak in August.

I knew Jorian well...we used to meet frequently and enjoy a chat. He was surely in advance of his time in his view of ecology and I am glad that some notice has been taken of this in the well put-together article. Jorian also wrote in my 'autograph album' and I think his rhyme might be of interest.

*Erb Morrison and his under-Secretary Peake were not great favourites in Peel at this time!

EHM

Middlesex

Great news, my fellow detainees
You are no longer - just captives -
And - Peake's sweet words to borrow -
To think that you are too dense to see
How reasonable our 'Erb' can be
Should give you pain and sorrow.

Jorian P. Peake

In Memoriam

"Hark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages,
Britain listens and rejoices,
Singing on Tradition's pages...."

BAILEY Dennis: B. Union Cadet Clapham Br: adopted son of BU Inspector W.H. Symes: In October 1938 serving with 31 AA Coy RE(TA) during Munich crisis.

BURN Andy: KPC 1914-8: Br. Un. 1933-40: 18B detainee 1940: Un. M 1948-76: On 31.10.1976

CLARK Ernest: BU County Prop Officer County Durham: In October 1937.

DESMOND, John Patrick: CIE, KIH, MIE (Ind), Superintendent Eng (Rtd), PWD Central Provinces, Provinces, India: Worthing BU: 11 October 1938

DICK, Colin: BU member arrested at Dover after return from Dunkirk in 'little boat' and detained 18B: In November 1953

DODS C.W. 'Bill':

S. Croydon Branch BU and Sydenham UM: At Sidmouth Devon 12 Oct 1984



FELDMICK L.L.: W. Lewisham Br British Union: Ex RAF: Age 27: In October 1938

GOWING Horace: Derby Br. BU: Detained 18B: Founder wartime Sons of St. George: In November 1949: Age 30: From TB contracted in Walton Jail and Ascutt Concentration Camp.

HILDESLEY Albert: In October 1948: St. Marylebone UM:

HOSFIELD Frank: Blackburn BU: By motorcycle on way to meeting in Market Square on 11 October 1937:

LING Bob: Ealing BU: 18B detained: S London UM: On 9 October 1975 after long illness bravely borne:

LYNN Jack: Harrow Br. and former District Leader BU Newcastle-on-Tyne: In October 1938:

MAIN, Miss Christian: Lochearnhead, Perth: devoted UM supporter: In November 1965

MENHAM, F.W. 'Freddie': BU D/L & UM B/L Hackney South: 18B detained: In November 1960

O'DONOGHAN Rose: wife of old cascade PAT: On 27 Nov. 1986

PACER Charlie: Mayor of Bexley, Kent 1978/9: Union Union Movement accountant 1948/85: On 27 November 1985

PARSONS H.J.: Aldershot BU: 18B Detainee: Union Movement On 19 November 1976

PEGG, Ron: Islington BU & UM: In October 1987

PEEL, Dr. Peter: PhD: early BU member and FI/Lt RAF 1939-46: California October 1988

PRAIT, Thomas Wilson: friend of OM's father and grandfather: oldest Blackshirt in Wilts: On November 2 1936

RING Margaret: mother of BU Ilford A/D/Leader and UM's Edy Ring: On 5 Nov 1938

FRIENDS OF O.M.

NORTHERN REUNION



Good wishes from Lady Mosley

IN A LOCATION near the former British Union Northern Headquarters in Manchester, Friends of O.M. gathered to show their solidarity with the spirit of Oswald Mosley on Sunday 24 September.

Except for a handful of London faces, the majority were locals, **Alf Millins**, **Brian Minchinton**, **Gordon Gee**, to name just a few for whom Oswald Mosley was the greatest of all Englishmen.

John Christian read a letter fruitful in the first year of good wishes from **Lady Mosley** and introduced younger friends to older comrades -

Walter Carr from Staffordshire who in February 1940 was appointed British Union District Leader, Redditch - a former BU London D/L had driven nearly 300 miles to be present - and from across the Pennines came **Leeds North BU D/L Bill Wood**. These three he stated exemplified the hypocrisy of the Government's knowingly false allegations against British Union in the last war for two of these then young Englishmen had been incarcerated without charge or trial in British concentration camps while the third had been surviving three tours of operations as an air-gunner in the RAF, gaining a DFC.

A highly entertaining impromptu speech by **Bill Wood** in which he told of his activities as an ex-Blackshirt chimney sweep brought tears of laughter to all present. These had prompted TVs **Miriam Stoppard** to name him 'Sweep William' and we gathered that **Bill** made as much money acting as a lucky talisman at weddings as from cleaning chimneys. He continued with a brief description of Teutonic pagan rites involving certain duties that sweeps perform if the union does not prove

all! In an excellently structured and delivered speech **Dan Harnerton** spoke on the hypocrisy, connivance and double-dealing of government that led to the Second World War in which Britain was on the victorious side but not a winner.

"The best speech I have heard since OM's death" was overheard.

A convivial day, proving the value of provincial POM meetings for old and new young Friends who cannot get to our November Commemoration Dinner.

JEREMY WALKER



BILL WOOD: Those readers wishing to be further amused by our 'chimney sweep extraordinary' can read of his 'conversations and biographical writings' - as **Sweep William**, 'helped to form a highly unusual chapter' in *Queer goings on* by **Maurice Colbeck**, a 'Yorkshire comicality' paperback published by Whitehorn Press, Withy Grove, Manchester, £1.85 [1979]

GREETINGS

LESLIE MILES: On his birthday 12 October: At 89 possibly our oldest old comrade. Former Voluntary Accounts Inspector British Union Enfield Branch.

THANKS

THE EDITOR thanks 'Searchlight' for placing him on the complimentary mailing list. In reciprocation of the courtesy he offers a donation of his services for correction of copy inaccuracies prior to publication on all matters concerning Mosley and British Union.

OBITUARY

GEORGE PRATTON

WITH DEEP SORROW we report the death on October 17 of **GEORGE PRATTON**, 79, who until the final day of British Union in June 1940 was District Leader, Marylebone, one of the winners of the *Action Sales Cup*, a success due much to his own part in sales of "Action" outside Swan and Edgar's, Piccadilly where his familiar figure became part of the landscape.

John Christian writes:

For George, British Union continued to exist until his final day. The warmth of its comradeship was ever with him and he never ceased to practise the principles of its beliefs and purpose.

Personal participation in all Branch activities was the hallmark of his leadership, and many of his ideas were at least 'original' - such as walking a pram down Whitehall, baby included as a coor for the bucket of whitewash that was to paint propaganda slogans.

Action he took with his Branch membership lists was probably the reason why its membership, including a large non-active section, were left untouched by the 18B political imprisonment dragnet, including himself by reason of becoming 'the invisible man'.

This did not however prevent his lone activities in

what he saw as Mosley's cause. When 'Mosley Will Win' and similar slogans began to appear in London after OM's arrest, the Special Branch were never able to discover the source. Who was to know that as George walked the streets in the blackout, carrying the gas mask compulsory under the law, that the specially adapted interior carried a home-made stamping pad and interchangeable rubber slogans carved out by George with the love and purpose that he saw as his role in the continuation of Mosley's fight.

A proud and independent man and English to the core. In later years he suffered from a disabling respiratory ailment which he fought as he had fought all his other adversaries, and I shall miss seeing that upright figure calling to talk on old comrades on his frequent visits to London from his Middlesex home.

And our hearts go out at this time to our old comrade **Irene**, his partner of nearly fifty years.

MRS. GRUNDY

As we go to press we learn of the death on October 22, of **MARION**, wife of **LESLIE GRUNDY**, former BU D/L and Inspector, Huddersfield, to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.

MANICO, Dorothy: Womens D/L Chichester BU: wife of D/L Capt. F.E. Manico.

On 12 November 1949

THOMSON Alexander Raven:

Director of Policy & Un. Editor of *Action* 1939-40: Ed. *Union* 1948-55:

Writer, philosopher, soldier, politician: A loyal comrade and great British and European patriot: On 30 October 1955

TAYLOR, Edward: Folkestone BU On November 11 1936

VEALE, F.J.P.: 'Action' and 'Union' contributor: member of Brighton BU/UM: author of *Advance to Barbarism and Crimes Discreetly Veiled*:

On November 27 1976



COMRADE

NEWSLETTER OF FRIENDS OF O.M.

NO.22 FEBRUARY/MARCH 1990

"The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow"



Out on the streets they came demanding an end to Red rule and the old guard of despots with faces like the Kaiser's death-mask

Revolt of the European Peoples

COMMUNIST EUROPE-- The Obituary

BY GORDON BECKWELL



UNLIKELY COINCIDENCES do sometimes occur. The fact that the Kremlin embraced 'perestroika' and 'glasnost' just as they realised that the Soviet economy was heading for bankruptcy is not one of them.

In Moscow, near the end of Brezhnev's reign, warning bells sounded. The marxist economic system, devoid of enterprise and incentives, could not support Russia's massive military and foreign subversion budget for much longer.

In Washington, a former President and close confidant of President Reagan, advised a skillful turn of policy to hasten Soviet collapse. The U.S. escalated its military spending knowing Russia would react in kind. 'Star Wars' was born and the Soviets were drawn further into the trap.

MOSLEY RIGHT

'The qualities of Germany may be regarded by the rest of the world as a menace or a merit....but they must be recognised as a fact..... In one way or another the Germans will come back, and, in the end, no power on earth will keep them apart or hold them down'

Oswald Mosley "The Alternative" 1947

Page 2: "Character of the German People" by Oswald Mosley

When the Kremlin realised the inevitability of the impending crash, they responded with the tunnel vision of marxist logic.

Their system could only be saved by infusion of money and technology from the West. 'The capitalists will sell us the rope with which we will hang them' was deeply rooted in marxist ideology.

They realised however that this would not happen while they continued with repression and aggression, so 'glasnost' and 'perestroika' were born. The withdrawal began from Afghanistan and offers of armed forces cuts followed.

Nevertheless, it was noted that coincidental with the policy of projecting 'Communism with a human face', was the increase of clandestine KGB activity in the West.

Gorbachov reasoned that if you give people who have never known freedom or the good life a small taste of both - or even just the promise - they will be well satisfied. Had not Marx taught that any policy was justified if it ensured the survival of a base for Communism?

But Gorbachov had misjudged - or more likely his Marxist training would not permit him to see - the true nature and spirit of the European people. Given a little freedom they wanted it all, and a living standard nothing less than in the West.

Fifty years of a system alien to the European mentality had not broken their will, and out onto the streets they came demanding an end to Red rule and the old guard of despots with faces like the Kaiser's death-mask.

What to do? If Gorbachov ordered in the army the game would be up. Aid from the West, vital for survival, would not arrive.

So as Russians have done before, they retreat back into the vastness of their own land. The Kremlin no longer dictates the pace: they must blow with the wind for the initiative has passed to the people on the streets.

As the initial euphoria fades, the dangers of changed circumstances rival the opportunities.

Only a new Patriotism of Europe in accord with Mosley's three-tier policy of local, national and European government, each with clearly defined and protected powers to preserve

Friends of O.M.

REVIEW OF 1989

Pages 4 to 7

British Union
ROLL OF HONOUR
1939 1945

"What though we ourselves be
switten,
This, our faith can never die!"

BROOKER, Gnr. C.G.: 90 Fld. Rgt. RA: Exeter Br. British Union: 188 Political Prisoner 1940-2: Died on P.O.W. march, 8 March 1945: name inscribed Cassin Memorial, Italy.

BURTONSHAW, P.I. Sgt. D.F.: RAF (VR): 156 Sqn: Age 20: killed in action Berlin raid 3.1.44: Brighton Br. British Union: name inscribed Runnymede Memorial.

FOGG, Pte. James: 1st Bn. E/Lancs. Regt: British Union: killed in action 11 February 1945: Buried Reichswald Forest War Cemetery, Cleves, Germany: age 26.

HASTINGS, Sgt. T.E. 'Tommy': RAF (VR): 7 Sqn: Age 31: Newcastle British Union: killed in action 31 March 1943: name inscribed Runnymede Memorial.

JONES, Capt. F.R.F.: 6th Bn. 14th. Punjab Regt: New Wood British Union: age 22: killed in action, Malaya 11 February 1942: name inscribed Kranji War Cemetery, Singapore.

identities, can divert the energies of petty nationalism into more constructive channels.

When the history of this time comes to be written, liberal chroniclers may be embarrassed to discover that the demise of Communism in Europe was made certain by a policy devised by a disgraced former American President who, notwithstanding Watergate, has proved to have the sharpest brain of any to enter the White House.

But the tyranny of Communism will not have been ended by the scribbles of liberal hacks, the cackling of bishops, the fawning of Labour politicians who awarded Ceausescu an English knighthood, or the small-minded caution of Tory leaders.

It will have been achieved by ordinary people in whom the true spirit of Europe and the will to live greatly had endured.

CHARACTER OF THE GERMAN PEOPLE

No less vital to a great achievement than political and technical skill is a people that wills great ends and can stand in union through long endurance to achieve them. Not even the most bitter enemy can deny to the German people that quality. They have been, and ever will remain, a factor in world History which cannot be ignored. From their own character and historic experience, derived from geographical facts, they have drawn these qualities.

For centuries they have stood sentinel on the Eastern Marches of Europe against the Oriental invader. The Barbarian was ever at the gate. If they had not possessed great character, they would have succumbed centuries ago; if they had not suffered these experiences they would never have acquired the mighty instinct to cohere into a granite column and not to splinter into soft fragments.

Their great quality contains a natural urge to unite and not to divide, a longing for great leadership and a desire to lift it when found to a place where it can greatly serve their great ends: in short, a solidarity, a conscious and deliberate self-discipline to secure high things....

Such are the qualities of the German people which have lifted them to the heights where they belong. What defects then have cast them again to the depths? What errors of judgement have robbed them of everything which their immense abilities and energies deserved? No people could plan, organise or execute so well in detail; or bring to the task a greater power to endure in combination with a superb energy and fiery idealism. But few people have suffered from greater errors in the profound judgement and long planning of future action which were necessary to use these great qualities to the best advantage and bring them to material triumph. Their policy lacked lucidity in design and all finesse in application. Industry and knowledge were never lacking; only clarity in great decision.....

The supreme direction of Germany has often lacked that combination of qualities which, in the world of action, was also the guiding genius of Imperial Rome.

That calm, cold clarity in fact; that power of flexible adaptability to fresh circumstance combined with rigid inflexibility in root principle; that deep realism in harmonious union with high mysticism; that perfect balance and control of character superimposed on fierce but persistent energy; that still regard for nothing but facts combined with the passionate onrush of a nature wholly dedicated to a higher purpose; that mind of ice but will of fire - in short, the qualities of the Caesarian Man.

The absence of this eternally indispensable factor in great achievement has been the tragedy of Germany, which brought to the dust all her supreme attributes....

In strange repetition of Buonapartist History, the imm-

ense energies and capacities of the German people were twice defeated by the great political skill of a rare but recurrent type in British statemanship, which is only permitted to attain effective power in Britain for such a purpose.

Men of genius have thus frustrated a people of genius.

The history of this negation is now writ stark on the anguished face of European man. The world pays a penalty when artificial division overcomes a natural union. History indicates that Germany requires some of the finest qualities which England has produced in order to reap that great harvest which is deserved by the character and capacity of the German people.

No less does every fact of this age prove that the English need the complimentary qualities of the Germans in an which can only be denied at the cost of further and, probably, irretrievable disaster.

The qualities of Germany may be regarded by the rest of the world as a menace or a merit...but they must be recognised as a fact....

When the mind of Britain changes from a great negation to a decisive positive, Britain and Germany will come together as naturally complimentary and related peoples.

When America and France, too, under the creative necessity of this age, move from a negative to a positive, we shall be within reach of a new harmony, leading to a new dynamic of achievement, in which German qualities will be regarded not as a danger, but as an essential of world survival and advance.

In one way or another the Germans will come back, and, in the end, no power on earth will keep them apart or hold them down.

Oswald Mosley "The Alternative" 1947

ROLL OF HONOUR

OUR BLACKSHIRT DEAD

HOW THEY DIED: More old comrades to be added to British Union's Roll of Honour resulting from our continual investigations.

Jim Fogg



This photograph of Oswald Mosley, on which he had written "Our hopes for years to come", was found in tunic pocket of 26yr old Lancashire Blackshirt JIM FOGG, 1st Btn, East Lancashire Regt., when killed in action while carrying a wounded comrade during the 5-day battle of Reichswald Forest in February 1945.

Although their reserves were running out, the Germans resisted strongly in the 45-sq mile conifer forest, a forward defence position of the Siegfried Line.

In most atrocious weather, there took place some of the bloodiest hand-to-hand fighting of the European Brothers War.

Perhaps it is fitting that he now lies in Reichswald Forest War Cemetery.

Tommy Hastings

Although TOMMY HASTINGS of Newcastle-upon-Tyne never joined the Blackshirts, we believe his rightful place is in our Roll of Honour.

A Newcastle old Blackshirt writes: "Tommy became a convert to the BUF in 1935. As he was an officer in Customs and Excise he did not enrol as a member. He was a regular reader of 'Blackshirt' and bought all BUF publications, often buying extra copies. He was always keen to discuss enthusiastically current political and economic events, and above all he was a sincere patriot.

At the outbreak of war he joined the RAF, trained in Canada and USA, and commenced operational duties as Sgt. Navigator with a Bomber Command Pathfinder squadron. We corresponded up to his final mission."

At 19.45 hours on March 13 1943, Sgt. Tommy Hastings, age 31, as front gunner in No. 7 Squadron's Stirling BK592, took off for target Essen. Nothing was heard from or of the aircraft after take off from its Oakington, Cambridgeshire base.

He is remembered in Panel 152 of the Air Force Memorial at Runnymede where 20,546 other airmen, including a good number of Blackshirts, who died in World War II and who are without known graves.

Tommy Hastings at last joined British Union.

MOSLEY



The Man

by
8. Desmond IRVINE

Edited from his speech at
the Commemoration Dinner

TONIGHT we commemorate a man, who in his life, brought the esprit of the Elizabethan age; whose purpose by political action was to defend the safety of this realm, to protect the people of Britain from wars and degradation, and enhance the living prosperity of all its citizens. This aspect of Sir Oswald Mosley's life compassed sixty years of endeavour: all his life, the mention of the name aroused admiration, controversy, and sometimes detest, by those informed only by rumours and hear-say, of despicable and lying slanders.

Gathered here are many old troopers of the days of British Union and Union Movement. Each of us can recall clearly the first time that the name of Mosley was a personal recruiting call for the adventure of responding to his appeal for Renaissance in our Land.

A schoolboy, on the way to school, I can remember that moment.

It was 1931, and by the roadside was a poster board which read:

Conservatives Don't Care
Liberals Aren't There
Labour Doesn't Dare

The invitation on the board was to write to Sir Oswald Mosley and to join the New Party.

It could be said that these slogans are valid today because Members of Parliament elected under our present system, are still Old Gang Parties.

After being elected, they

simply troop sheep-like into the Lobbies, voting according to the Dictats of the Party Machine.

This accounts for the Enigmas, where otherwise honest people, cast away their Consciences at the Doors of the Nay and Yaye Whippers-in.

This Old Gang system Oswald Mosley opposed, and he set out a policy for our Country in which the will of its citizens would be expressed in the formation of National Government, and with a Parliament drawn from the heart of the Shires and Cities.

This would bring to the Realm a commonwealth, in its original and true meaning as understood by the Elizabethans - a common union of endeavour, with each citizen bound by rights under the Laws, and their obligations to service in the State.

Second War blunder

It was these Old Gang politicians who plunged this country into a second war against Germany, resulting in loss of British Empire, and subjection of our land to soulless international money-power - an element now entered before the British people as holy writ of its own right.

There has been recent comment in the Press on a new play by the playwright Douglas-Horne, which dramatises the Christmas Truce in the trenches in December 1914.

My father took part in that event, and I can recall him telling me how he found himself in No-Man's Land talking to a Bavarian who had once worked as a waiter in Tottenham Court Road.

That War, the horror of which afterwards people believed was 'The War to end all wars', was ended by the Armistice of 11th November 1918.

Even after blundering into blundering intowar a second time in 1939, a peaceful resolution of the conflict by negotiation of British and German governments was available. Malicious, wicked and reactionary forces made sure that this did not occur.

Mosley's courage

Mosley had the courage to stand out for the withdrawal from this Fratricide, for the Brothers War to be ended, and Britain to attend to her natural historical role - the development of the Empire, deliberate protection of the economy from the Booms and Slumps of the decadent trading system; a system which had been a prime reason for the Great War of 1914.

This was the real reason that Sir Oswald Mosley and many members of his movement were imprisoned, locked away, by the Coalition government, who brought in measures of Thought-Control to reinforce the measure called 18B, detention without trial or legal appeal.

It took great courage for Mosley to return to the political Forum after 1945, and

once again rally for Britain.

The inspiration which that Rally gave to many of us, will now, although no longer physically with us, inspire anew those who will tread after us, the Standard bearers in his Life-March.

Mosley's Vision of

The European

Our present parliamentary members have no sense of history. They lack the Vision, the Vision of the European which Mosley brought to European thought. A concept which existed long before us which Mosley re-newed and defined the Quest of our times.

The reaching out towards the Nation Europa. The philosophy of Heraclitus, the rejection of the Static and the Dead; the vision through movement, an idea realised by Nietzsche when he wrote: "the Portico, which inherited its fundamental conceptions from Heraclitus.."

I can recall Oswald Mosley telling us: "[That] he had built a Door, through which, one day, Britain will pass to the highest destiny, the leadership in the European idea."

In the Rally of a renewed Movement, there will be the Leadership and organisation to enable Britain to enter that gate-way.

The need now is, First, to replace the Old Gang Parties with a National Government of Reconstruction.

This must, and will arise, when men and women of the Renaissance are elected to a truly National parliament.

The present government has based its policies on the outworn and dated ideas of International Capitalist trade. Usury and Debt are now enforced on all the citizens

of our land, and as Recession now returns, it is plainly seen that the old remedies no longer work.

It was the failure of this Trading system which fanned the flames of war against our natural friends and allies in 1939.

In the words of Ezra Pound: 'A nation that will not get itself into Debt,

Drives the Usurers to Fury'

These very same interests now attempt to persuade the British, that the Nation Europa must be prevented at all costs.

The Call is to reject the anarchy of International Competition, and form the National Government of Reconstruction: the Move to building of the European closed system, free from slumps and booms.

The ideas of Oswald Mosley.

At this Rally, Oswald Mosley is present; he is, in the words of Heraclitus:

"Immortal mortal, mortal Immortal."

And from his book "The Alternative", these words will be the Rally by the young men and women who will form the ranks of the new movement.

"From the dust we rise to see a vision that came not before. All things are now possible; and all will be achieved, by the final order of the European."

•Desmond Irvine, a young Black-shirt before war service 1939-46 with Oxford & Bucks L/I and King's Regt. After the war he became an active member of Union Movement developing into one of its speakers under guidance of his friend and mentor Raven Thomson.

Inside Russia

Revolt not new
writes
MARTIN MALONEY

A number of Soviet States are seething with unrest, but revolts inside the USSR are nothing new. The Soviet terror regime was just largely successful in suppressing the news.

The people of Georgia, Stalin's birthplace, have revolted against the Soviet State in 1924, 1927, 1932, and 1947.

In Byelorussia serious revolts occurred in 1920 and 1929, and in Azerbaijan the revolts of 1929 and 1931 gave serious problems to the Kremlin.

Resistance to the Kremlin has been constant, even in recent times. In Central Asia and North Caucasus the dissent has been so strong that whole nations have been deported or liquidated by the Soviets.

During resistance fighting in the Ukraine from 1944 to 1950 it is believed that up to 35,000 of elite Soviet troops, including one of Stalin's favourite generals, General Moskalenko, were killed.

What we can learn from this today is that the Soviet Union is past master at appearing to be all things to all men and are unlikely to change in any way.



Missing from this issue.
Back with us in Comrade 23



Express & Star

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1989

Heroes' death for Fascists

FOR THE Royal Air Force, the greatest war in history began with an ill-judged foray across the North Sea.

At the mouth of the Kiel Canal was a German fleet, including battleships and cruisers bristling with anti-aircraft guns.

Despatched against it were six Mk 1A Wellington medium bombers from 9 Squadron, divided into two flights of three planes.

Later in the war the Wellington would distinguish itself as a rugged and reliable night bomber, well equipped to defend itself with power-operated gun turrets fore and aft.

But the Mk 1A, barely off the drawing board, was cursed with a fixed, single-gun turret which could be brought to bear only by manoeuvring the whole aircraft. To make matters worse, this first attack was a daylight raid at low-level against a fleet heavily defended by German fighter aircraft.

The first flight of three Wellingtons braved heavy flak to press home their attack before diving into clouds for a safe flight home. The second flight had no such luck. The lumbering Wellingtons were pounced on by nine Messerschmitt 109 fighters.

One bomber escaped but the other two were shot down by the Me 109s and ground fire. In all, ten aircrew were lost.

Sixteen days later, the Air Ministry issued its first casualty list of the war. It was headed by Aircraftman 2nd Class K G Day. Further down the list appeared the name of Aircraftman 2nd Class G T Brooking. Both had perished in Wellington L4275.

It was a further three weeks before the irony of this double tragedy dawned.

In a brief magazine notice, it was revealed that both Kenneth Day, aged 20, and 22-year-old George Brooking had been members of Sir Oswald Mosley's British Union — this country's despised Blackshirt Movement.



Sir Oswald Mosley, the dreaded Blackshirt leader supported by Britain's first two war casualties who were serving with the RAF.

Fifty years ago today, two young aircraftmen became the first RAF personnel to be killed in action.

The story of their daring raid has passed into legend. But, according to one researcher, another aspect has been deliberately hushed up.

For the two heroes were British Fascists. PETER RHODES reports.

The Blackshirts openly admired the fascism of Mussolini and Hitler.

The movement preached anti-communism and anti-Semitism and was seen at its violent worst in the "Battle of Cable Street" in 1936 when 7,000 Mosleyites fought pitched battles with Jews and Socialists in London's East End, leaving 80 injured.

On the political front, Mosley had some support in the late 1930s for his "Britons Fight for Britain Only" campaign in which both young aircraftmen had served.

Mosley and his supporters argued that Britain's interests lay in the empire, not Europe.

"It is particularly poignant and ironic," says retired journalist John Christian, "that the first two young casualties to die for their country paid

the supreme sacrifice in a war they believed not to be in their country's interest."

More ironic, says Christian, himself a former Blackshirt, is the fact that if Day and Brooking had survived they would probably have been interned without trial under the Emergency Regulations which kept Mosley and 800 of his followers behind bars from May 1940 until after the war.

At his London home, John Christian says: "Their death was such an embarrassment to Britain's wartime government and is such a continuing historical embarrassment, that the story of the war's first official casualties remains unpublished."

"It strikes me as unfair that the government tried to suggest that people like these were potential traitors."

1989

IN MEMORIAM

"THEIR NAME LIVETH FOR EVER MORE"

DAY K.G. and BROOKING G.T. — The First Casualties World War 2; RAF 9 Sqn. and Mosley's British Union. Volunteer air gunners killed in action, Kiel Canal, Sept. 4, 1939. E.B.

Daily Telegraph
4 September 1989

Historical silence

Sir, — Former RAF 110 ground crewman Arthur Ashton's criticism of the varying accounts of the Wattisham Blenheim squadron's bombing raid on units of the German Fleet on Wilhelmshaven on September 4, 1939 (EADT, November 10), raised the further question on the accuracy of the description of "the first bombing raid of the Second World War," used by him and indeed most other writers on this operation.

For parallel with this operation was No. 9 Squadron's Wellingtons bombing

raid on other units of the German Fleet at Brunsbütel at the mouth of the Kiel Canal, Squadron Leader A.S. Lamb's A Flight lifting off from Honington at 15.40.

Two Wellingtons were lost, L4275 providing Britain's first casualty of the war with voluntary air-gunner AC2 K.G. Day. The squadron concluded its operational report with 'First squadron to draw blood'.

No. 9 Squadron therefore lifted off within ten minutes of the first Blenheim lift off from Wattisham. Mr. Ashton's notes of the timing must be considered more accurate than the differing historian's accounts.

It is little wonder that some chronicles of events have some inaccuracies, for we know now that at the beginning of it all the Government released information so wrong that it can only be described as fabrication.

"Several hits with heavy bombs registered on a German battleship... off Wilhelmshaven which resulted in severe damage" said the first communique of

the war. "At Brunsbütel an attack was carried out on a battleship... causing heavy damage" it continued. In a further report it claimed that the attacks were "even more successful than was originally reported."

The truth was that five out of ten Blenheims and two out of six Wellingtons that reached the target were lost, and 25 crew members lost their lives, the only damage to the German Fleet being caused by a shot down Blenheim crashing on the training cruiser "Emden", killing and wounding a number of the crew.

Over the past 50 years, the part played by RAF 9 Squadron in that 'first bombing raid of the war' has been relegated almost to a 'non-event'. As recently as 1985 in Martin Middlebrook and Chris Everett's *The Bomber Command Diaries*, it was claimed that "Little is known of the Wellington raid..."

Yet as much was known from operational reports and other sources of the Wellington raid as was known of the Blenheim raid.

IN MEMORIAM — WAR

DAY K.G. and BROOKING G.T. The first Casualties: World War 2: RAF 9 Squadron & Mosley's British Union: Volunteer air gunners killed in action Kiel Canal, Sept 4th 1939.

The Times
4 September 1989

Was it because within weeks of the raid, the British Government learned that 20 years old Kenneth Day, and his friend 22 years old AC2 air gunner George Brooking, lost with him in the same aircraft, were both Blackshirts, non-active members of the Mosley movement's Colchester Branch, the first to die for their country in a war which they did support, and thus a permanent historical embarrassment and a conspiracy of silence that has been maintained until this day?

JOHN CHRISTIAN,

East Anglia Daily Times
21 November 1989

•The absence of 'not' an unfortunate typographical error. Ed.

'SHE reminds us that her only brother, of whom she was deeply fond, was killed in the war against Hitler Germany. And she defends her husband's memory, as she has consistently done throughout her widowhood.... Freedom of expression is a gift desperately sought by those denied it; often attacked by those who enjoy it... Lady Mosley was within the law and so, in our view, had every right to be heard.....

Daily Telegraph
28 November 1989

Mosley ban urged

By Our Political Correspondent

The BBC has been urged not to broadcast a recording of Desert Island Discs featuring Lady Mosley, widow of the fascist leader, the late Sir Oswald Mosley. Mr Greville Janner, a Labour MP, says the timing is "insensitive" because it is close to the 50th anniversary of the outbreak of the Second World War.

Daily Telegraph
8 July 1989

TODAY'S CHOICES
Desert Island Discs
Radio 4: 12.15 - 12.55 pm
Rescheduled three times as proposed transmission dates clashed with sensitive milestones in the Jewish calendar, here at last is the BBC's current hot potato, the programme featuring Diana Mosley (right), widow of fascist leader Sir Oswald Mosley. Perhaps predictably, Wagner is going to be thundering across the airwaves.



Sunday Telegraph
16 July 1989

Sunday Telegraph
Magazine
26 November 1989

Desert Island Diana

MANDRAKE hopes that most readers will agree with him that Diana, Lady Mosley, should not appear on Desert Island Discs (July 16). A fastidious reader of his urbane diary, on this occasion I would beg to demur.

There is no gainsaying that the ideological upheavals of the inter-war years were a prelude to the awakened European consciousness of the immediate post-war years. Sir Oswald Mosley was a prominent figure during those turbulent decades; and if Lady Mosley can provide further insights into her husband and his times, that surely would be of great interest to those seeking to understand the historical background of the Europe now taking shape before us.

For that reason alone, Lady Mosley should be allowed to have her say.

CHARLES SMITH,
12 Queen Street,
Henley-on-Thames, Oxon.

YOU refer to Sir Oswald Mosley as being "surrounded by thugs". I hardly think that Henry Williamson, J. F. C. Fuller and many other Mosley associates fall into that category.

Two "Mosleyite thugs" were the first official casualties in the Hitler war, being shot down in the same Wellington over the Kiel Canal on September 4, 1939.

(Rev.) A. C. V. MENZIES

Sunday Telegraph
23 July 1989

Sensitive

MR GREVILLE Janner, the well known Labour MP, is asking the BBC not to broadcast a recording of Desert Island Discs which features Lady Mosley, widow of Sir Oswald. He says the timing is "insensitive" because it is close to the 50th anniversary of the beginning of the Second World War.

While he is about it, why doesn't he try to get Lady Mosley prosecuted as a "war criminal"? The only part the Mosleys played in the war was to try to stop this country being involved in it, for which they were interned. But this sensitive champion of justice for all should not be deterred by little details like that.

Peter Simple

Daily Telegraph
10 July 1989

YOUR anonymous columnist Mandrake did not notice the irony in his mean-spirited attack on my grandmother, Lady Mosley, to which other correspondents have already replied.

If the war was fought for anything, it was fought for free speech in a free country. The imprisonment without trial of Sir Oswald and Lady Mosley was hardly an advertisement for democracy and freedom of expression, and neither is Mandrake's suggestion that an elderly lady should be banned from broadcasting because of her late husband's political activities 50 years ago.

CATHERINE GUINNESS,
96, Cheyne Walk, SW10.

Sunday Telegraph
30 July 1989

MANDRAKE

DIANA, Lady Mosley, aged 79, widow of the old fascist leader, Sir Oswald Mosley, is to achieve what I understand is one of her long-standing ambitions: to be on Desert Island Discs. She recorded the programme last week, and the BBC intends to broadcast it on September 17.

Row over invite to Mosley's widow

By KEVIN TOOLIS

THE BBC has been condemned for interviewing the widow of fascist leader Sir Oswald Mosley on the eve of a Jewish holy day.

Lady Diana Mosley will be the guest on October 8's edition of Desert Island Discs as part of the BBC's Second World War commemoration programmes.

That day is the eve of Yom Kippur, and the broadcast is certain to offend the Jewish community deeply.

Labour MP Greville Janner, a member of the Jewish Board of Deputies, said: "To interview her will be tasteless and offensive."

Mail on Sunday
13 August 1989

Lady Mosley's island view

From Mr Ivor Samuels

Sir: As a Jew, I write to dissociate myself from the demands of my "representatives", the Board of Deputies, that the BBC should have banned the broadcast of Desert Island Discs in which Lady Mosley was interviewed (front page, 27 November).

For an official Jewish organisation to propose a ban on any free expression of opinion is bad enough; to attempt to muzzle the tired ramblings of an old, self-deluded lady approaches the category of knee-jerk reaction.

My family (one generation back) fought the Blackshirts in the East End of London so I won't fall for the argument that the very expression of the lady's views is offensive to us. And having listened to them, though distasteful enough, I found them sad and faded, rather than a threat. Certainly, Hayim Pinner's use of the word "nauseating" was wholly unwarranted and should be saved for really offensive occasions. Diana Mosley cannot change her opinions now; she would be denying what she went to prison for. Other people have convictions, too, Mr Pinner, especially people we don't agree with. It is important for us to hear that there are mad men who genuinely believe the Holocaust was a lie, if only for us to keep up our guard.

Lady Mosley's beliefs are as genuinely held as those of the murderers of Tiananmen Square and of the ayatollahs from Tehran to Belfast and Bradford. The attempt to ban her is no different from the attempt to ban Salman Rushdie. And we know what is the next short step from there.

It is reprehensible that such a powerful positive force as the

Board of Deputies should even begin to walk that particular greasy tightrope.

Yours faithfully,
IVOR SAMUELS
London, SW17

Independent
28 November 1989

Mosley the patriot

I DISLIKED Sir Oswald Mosley's posturing in a black shirt in the 1930s. I disliked his British Union of Fascists. But to assume, as does your correspondent Ruth Rees, that he and his wife were "working against the welfare of our country" is mischievous nonsense.

Sir Oswald had fought and was severely wounded in World War I.

He was one of many young veterans who believed passionately that there must never be a repetition of the ghastly experiences he and his generation went through between 1914 and 1918.

When however World War II broke out in 1939 he exhorted his followers to support the Government and fight.

He was a patriot. He was rewarded by being sent to prison without trial. Lady Mosley followed him. Who on earth were or are "the victims of her tawdry activities"? I have yet to meet one.

JAMES LEES-MILNE,
Essex House,

Sunday Telegraph
16 August 1989

→ 1989

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Triumph

LADY MOSLEY, widow of Sir Oswald, has at last been interviewed in a Desert Island Disc programme, after three postponements because of protests by the Board of Deputies of British Jews. "I found it nauseating," says the secretary general of the Board, Mr Hayim Pinner. "She was not a fit subject for a Desert Island Discs programme, and this was offensive to millions of people."

Hitler, wherever he is now, may permit himself a smile of triumph at the thought that, nearly 45 years after his death, a mild expression of regard for him by an Englishwoman in her 80th year can produce such terror and indignation. It is a kind of ghastly victory for the man.

Mr Greville Janner, MP for Leicester West and another member of the Board, has demanded a full transcript of the interview. Is he going to try, as I have suggested before, to arrange that Lady Mosley be prosecuted as a "war criminal"?

After all, it would require only a slight change in English law, perhaps an amendment to the Bill which will soon be coming before Parliament, to make it possible to try as "war criminals" a number of Lady Mosley's contemporaries, mainly Lithuanians and Latvians, who have been quietly living in this country for the last 45 years, minding their own business and doing no harm to anybody.

Peter Simple

Daily Telegraph
30 November 1989Daily Telegraph
30 November 1989

Blackshirts were hurt most in clashes

SIR—Despite increased research into British fascism, and the establishment of at least one university undergraduate course on the topic, it is clear from your report (Nov. 27) of reaction to Lady Mosley's BBC broadcast that there is still much confusion on the subject in the popular mind.

Like many people, Mr Greville Janner appears to believe that the violence surrounding Blackshirt marches and, presumably, meetings was the result of fascist attacks. Before undertaking research at Nuffield College, Oxford, I too suspected as much.

However, evidence in Home Office files held at the Public Record Office, Kew, suggests the opposite. Those files provide extensive detail on violence at British Union of Fascists meetings and marches from Jan. 1, 1934, to Sept. 24, 1938.

In that time the police reported on 402 meetings (333 of which were in London). This is only a proportion of total fascist meetings held, but it represents our best evidence.

At these meetings the police arrested 198 anti-fascists, 72 fascists and 92 "others". Some of the fascists were arrested for their own safety, and it is fairly clear that most of the disturbances came from anti-fascists.

Similarly, although more than 60 per cent of BUF meetings faced disturbances, the Blackshirts can be held responsible for only 21 disturbances at Left-wing meetings in the period. Whereas anti-fascist tactics concentrated on trying to break up Blackshirt meetings, this tactic did not feature in Mosley's campaigns.

When we look at the police figures for assaults and injuries they are even more interesting. In the period in question, fascists were identified as having been responsible for 24 assaults, causing 17 injuries; in only four attacks were weapons used (namely, electrician's tape around knuckles, a belt, a truncheon and "missiles").

However, in the same period there

were 51 recorded attacks on fascists, in which 119 fascists were injured; weapons used included bottles, knuckledusters, bricks, loaded rubber tubing, stones and a sword. Injuries among fascists were, not surprisingly, much more severe than those inflicted by fascists.

Inadequate as these Home Office figures may be, they represent our best evidence. I conclude from these and similar figures that the BUF were more the victims than the perpetrators of political violence.

STEPHEN CULLEN
Perth

Communists started trouble at rallies

SIR—Stephen Cullen's letter (Nov. 30) raises the question as to who was the main cause of violence and disturbances at Blackshirt meetings before the 1939-45 War.

As a constable from mid-1936 onwards I was on duty at many Blackshirt meetings and marches in and around south-east London. As I recall, trouble was always started by communists and other opposing factions whose main purpose was to prevent the freedom of speech and the right to march from one part of London to another—these rights being accorded to any lawful organisation be they the Salvation Army or any other body.

My impression was that the Blackshirts were fairly well disciplined, and they seemed to have been instructed not to retaliate; but it was inevitable that some became involved in skirmishes of one kind or another.

May I hasten to add that it was simply the duty of the Metropolitan Police to enforce the law without fear or favour and to uphold the rule of law. In the process many officers were injured in maintaining the King's peace. If the anti-fascists had stayed away I do not think there would have been violence.

VALENTINE BOTSWRIGHT
London SW19Daily Telegraph
5 December 1989SOME YOU WIN
BBC back down

AS WE REPORTED on going to press with the August/September COMRADE, the BBC's World Service were to broadcast a programme featuring Lady Mosley and other supporters on the 50th Anniversary of the Second War, September 3rd. It had been edited from a recording made some months previously by the World Services political correspondent Andrew Whitehead.

A few days before the broadcast, our columnist COBRA learned that it was to be titled "Enemies Within?" which persuaded editor John Christian to first, pose to the BBC the question: 'How are you to broadcast the question mark?', and secondly, as the majority of contributors would not have participated under the programmes libelous title, that the BBC withdraw their contribution be withdrawn.

After further consultation and proposes court injunction, the BBC wisely agreed that the contributors had a case, and the and the broadcast went out without a title, but has

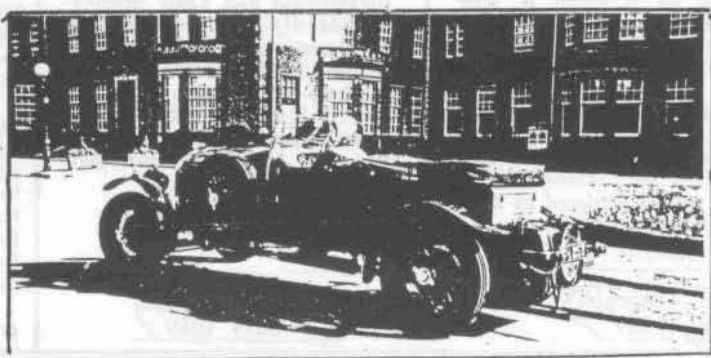
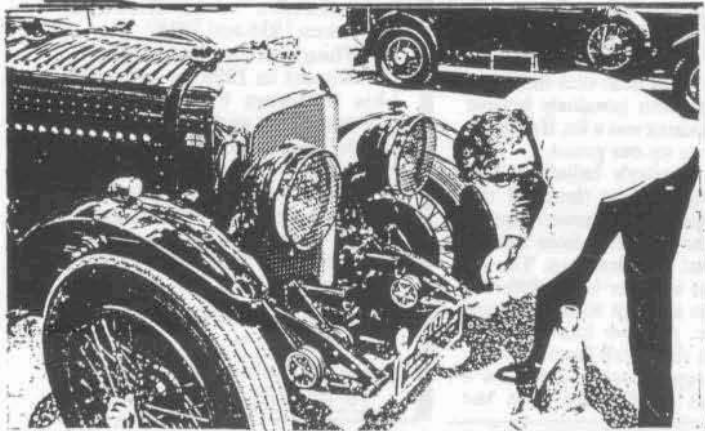
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Old Soldiers Never Die

AS WE REPORTED last year in the June/July "Comrade", O.M.s Bentley, which he used extensively in the 1930s to drive to British Union marches and meetings, is still going strong, as can be seen in our pictures.

Fully restored, the old warhorse took part in the 1989 Shell Rally at Cannes. When at home it resides in Gloucestershire, its owner Mr. Michael Lester.

It was damaged by a bullet which penetrated a rear door window at Mosley's Hull meeting in 1936, and is seen here at Islip Street, Kentish Town, O.M. reviewing the column before the march to his meeting at Trafalgar Square in 1937. It 'retired from the Movement at the Blackshirt Camp at Selsey, Sussex in 1937 when O.M. was presented with a new MG by members of British Union.



1989 The Commemoration Dinner



General view of the Dinner:
Dan Harmston speaking

WELL OVER A HUNDRED packed the banquet hall of a London hotel for the 5th. annual **COMMEMORATION DINNER** in November. New friends and old friends including Alexander Mosley who accompanied his mother to his first **Friends of O.M.** gathering.

In a speech of welcome, **Mike Quill** spoke of the increased requests for help to **FOM** from academics and historians researching **British Union**, and of the future publication of the late John Charnley's memoirs.

'Big' **Dan Harmston** re-

viewed the current political scene, followed by **Ronald Creasy** who spoke of the outstanding and unique qualities of Oswald Mosley.

Martin Maloney paid tribute to the quality of current affairs in **Comrade**, its thinking and conclusions often ahead of the quality

newspapers.

Speaking for the first time at the Commemoration Dinner, **Desmond Irvine** displayed a deep understanding of Mosley the Man, and we print his speech in that feature.

John Christian welcomed old comrades and new friends

present for the first time, including a number of young associates, who, although politically active outside **FOM**, are drawn to us by the record of our past. He read for absence from three continents, and, and coupled his toast with the man, many old comrades no longer with us, 'their spirits with us tonight'.

This reporter, of the born 1960s generation, count it a privilege to have been present at what I felt for some was almost a 'holy' occasion.

A unique and never-to-be-forgotten personal experience, moving me to conclude with Mosley's words used in Dan Harmston's speech:

"The heart of this great people is invincible. This flag still challenges the winds of destiny. This flame still burns. This glory shall not die."

JOHN BENSON

THE SPECTATOR

23 September 1989

EUROPE'S UNHOLY GODFATHERS

The European idea is not necessarily liberal. Noel Malcolm investigates the shadier branches of its family tree

AS WITH war and the generals, the history of the 'European' movement is too important to be left to the pro-Europeans themselves. The EEC's approved version of its own intellectual ancestry is an exercise in selective piety. From the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, for example, you can obtain free of charge a booklet entitled *Jean Monnet, a Grand Design for Europe*, from which you will learn that 'the process of European unification stems essentially from the search for a new brand of humanism ... With this aim in mind, the "Father of Europe" set out to promote a new moral base for Europe ...

Nothing could be more desirable, of course, than a new brand of humanism or a new moral base (whatever that means), and no paternal figure could be more respectable than the amiably non-dogmatic M. Monnet. But if we try to construct a more detailed family tree for the 'process of European unification', we may find that it is a family with some surprising black sheep in it. These more distant relatives do not qualify as direct ancestors, though some of them may have crept in at the christening as uninvited godfathers to give European unity their blessing. But as in all families, there are resemblances which can be seen on ugly faces as well as respectable ones.

Search the official histories of the 'European idea' and you will find no mention, for example, of the Union Movement, founded to promote European union in 1948, nor of its monthly magazine, *The European*, which ran from 1953 to 1959, nor even of the 'European Declaration' promoted by this movement and adopted by an international conference at Venice in

1962. 'Europe', said the Declaration, 'shall have a common government for purposes of foreign policy, defence, economic policy, finance and scientific development.' What could be more respectable than that? And yet the founder of the Union Movement, Sir Oswald Mosley, has not gone down in history even as the Uncle of Europe.

The signatories of this declaration have been variously described as neo-fascists and as ex-fascists. Explaining his own

raison d'être would be to regulate the economy on a grand scale, to enforce social progress by encouraging industrial 'co-partnership' and workers' control, and to promote 'scientific' solutions to Europe-wide problems.

The basic pattern of thought here is Corporatism, an 'ism' not in its elaborate theoretical shape (as constructed by Italian fascist theorists) but in the form of an assumption, an

Mosley and Europe: The Facts

"FASCISM IS DEAD. NOW WE MUST MAKE EUROPE": Mosley, to Lady Mosley, May 8, 1945

"The Idea of Kinship....the reaching out of hands to those who are kindred or of the same kind. The Idea of Kinship can bring the Union of Europe....As a family of the same stock and kind, Europe should always have been united in Ideal. Today, the Real, as well as the Ideal faces Europe with the alternative of Union or Disaster."

"The Extension of Patriotism"

**Oswald Mosley
January 15, 1947**

position in his autobiography (published in 1968). Sir Oswald put the emphasis, naturally, on the 'ex'; but at the same time he was honest enough to admit some continuity between his post-war and pre-war philosophies. Perhaps the most important common thread was an impatience with any form of human organisation which was confrontational and divisive and therefore inefficient. Both in the Sixties and in the Thirties he advocated a 'government of national consensus' to overcome the inefficiencies of adversarial party politics; both before the war and after it he attacked the 'anarchy' of a free market in labour. Although the Europe he envisaged would have a parliamentary constitution, its

BRITISH UNION STUDIES

DURING 1989, we have been increasingly involved assisting the growing number of post-graduate and undergraduates with their research on various aspects of British Union.

As an example of the academic standard of these projects we print an excerpt from one dissertation: **Ilford BUF and Electoral Politics**.

"The British Union's commitment to electoral politics extended beyond the East End, although much of the academic literature makes little reference to this fact. By concentrating on the less savoury aspects of the move-

6 - BBC

'posthumously' been titled **"Against The War"!**

The broadcast, in which Fred and Sid Bailey, Dan Harmston and John Christian from **FOM**, Lady Mosley, Jeffrey Hamm, Secretary of Action Society, and a London ex-policeman participated, was in fact, within the half-hour limit, a fair assessment by Andrew Whitehead of Mosley and British Union's stance in 1939.

But the BBC's backroom boys?

historians have usually omitted any meaningful analysis of the BUF's attempts to become an electoral force outside its East End heartland.

Yet, as the example of Ilford has shown, at least some 'provincial' branches endeavoured to enter mainstream politics by the orthodox route of looking for a mandate from the electorate."

This graduate is continuing his research on a 3-year project on **British Union in Essex and East Anglia**.

In Memoriam

"Hark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages.
Britain listens and rejoices,
Gazing on Tradition's pages...."

AITKEN, Andrew: P/Off RAF; early British Union member: flying accident Sussex, December 1937
ALLEN, Comdt. Mary: OBE: former suffragette and co-founder of first women's police force in World War 1; Head of Women's Auxiliary Service 1914-1940; Member British Union and Union Movement; Under virtual house arrest in World War 11: In December 1964

ANDREWS, E. J. D.: Canterbury BU: 20 February 1940
AVERT, Capt. F. F. "Bill": Southampton BU & London UM: At 93, the oldest Chelsea Pensioner: February 1976

BAILEY, Jack: Bethnal Green British Union and Union Movement: Father of FOM Council members Fred and Sid Bailey: Age 82: On 19 January 1965

BEAVAN, Arthur: BU 'I' Squad: D/L West Ham: Parl. Candidate Upton: 188 Political Prisoner: Union Movement: At 87: March 23 1982

BECKETT, Joe: British & Empire Heavyweight Boxing Champ. 1919-23: BU, wartime 188 political prisoner: Foundation member Union Movement: March 1965

BECKETT, Mrs. Joe: wife of former English Heavy Weight Champion Joe Beckett: Like her husband member of British Union and Union Movement: Political Prisoner Holloway Goal 1940: On 12 December 1952

BIRD, Mr. A. J.: former Inspector of Schools Middlesex and Principle Kilburn Poly.: Member Kilburn British Union: In January 1939

BOWLER, Mr. A. E.: Ealing British Union & Union Movement: In December 1976

BRAY, Bill: BU D/T Birmingham Central Br.: D/L Handsworth Br.: 188 Political Prisoner: December 3 1988

BROCK-GRIGGS, Tom: BU: RAF: 188 Political Prisoner: UM: husband BU Chf. Womens Organiser: March 1982

BROWN, Prof. A. E. MA LLB: former Professor of International Law, Calcutta: Member Cambridge On 6 January 1939

CAPLETON, L. "Cap": BU D/L Croydon: Led Branch to win Action Sales Cup: later D/Inspector: 188 political prisoner: Bristol Union Movement: March 1961

CHARNLEY, John: BU D/L and Parl. Candidate Hull/E: 188 Political Prisoner: Union Movement: December 28 1988

CLAYTON, Charlie: East London BU & UM Drum Corps: popular beater of "big drum": 17 March 1978

COKE, Mrs.: British Union and mother of Union Movement Walthamstow Br. Leader Ernest Coker: In January 1950

CORBIN, Peter: BU Team/L, speaker Salisbury: January 1981

D'ALESSIO, Ron: First British Union District Leader Plymouth & later of Cheltenham: 188 British political prisoner: 1940: On 18 January 1987

DOCMRA, Joe: BU Hackney, Navy: Union M: 5 Febru

DOHOVAN, J. E.: seaman member Limehouse BU: "Action" contributor "Don Beresford" February 1938

DOROTHY, VISCOUNTESS DOWNE: Parl. Candidate North Norfolk: March 26 1957

DOWTY, Mrs. L. A.: wife of John Dowty, British Union Parliamentary Candidate Evesham: In January 1976

OUTFIELD, E. T.: Epping British Union and 188 British political prisoner: In December 1986

EATON, Bill: BU D/L Lancaster, D/L N/Lancs. and Westmorland: Parl. Cand. Burnley: holder BU Gold 5 February 1989

EATON, Harry: East London BU & UM: February 1976

ELAM, Dudley: British Union's elderly receptionist at NHQ Westminster: British political prisoner 1940 contributing to his death. His wife, British Union Parliamentary Candidate for Northampton also jailed in Holloway Goal: In December 1948

FITT, Bill: Epping Branch speaker British Union: On 30 January 1988

FERRIS, Don: Nottingham BU: 188 political prisoner: March 1952

FULLER, Maj. Gen. J. F. C. CB CBE DSO: tank expert, military thinker and writer: organised British tank forces World War I member and Prospective Parliamentary Candidate Westminster St. Georges British Union. 10 February 1966

FRANCIS-HAWKINS, Mel: Pioneer member later Director-General British Union: Incarcerated Brixton Jail 1940-44 as a political prisoner leading to his early death at 43. On 25 December 1950

GOOD, Ann: BU & Leader's secretary UM. Early 1979

GRANT, of Shoreditch British Union: father of family of of Mosley supporters. In December 1948

GREEN, John: Hackney Br. BU and Essex Br. Union M: March 1959

HAMILTON, Sir Archibald: popular BU member at Selsey Blackshirt Camps. March 1939

HAMLEY, Frank: Sheffield: New Party, BU, 188 Political Prisoner, UM. March 26 1985

HANSELL, Mrs. Florence: Bethnal Green British Union & Union Movement: wartime collector 188 Detainees Fund. In December 1950

HAYES, Flo: BU Womens County Office, Wessex: 188 Political Prisoner: UM. March 1982

HILL, M. W.: early British Union member and part founder of Taunton Branch whose two sons also joined Mosley. In January 1938

HOLMAN, Percy: Southampton British Union & Union Movement: following a road accident On 31 December 1977

HOOKE, Bill: Shoreditch Union Movement. March 1949

KLETT, A. E.: BU Prospective Parlia Candidate Kings Lynn & 188 political prisoner. March 1974

JEBB, Ralph Gladwyn: Explorer, pearl fisherman: BU D/L Salisbury: Dist. and Regional Insp: Cty. Prop. Officer, Wilts: Parl. Cand. Dorset West: BU Gold Distinction Award: 188 Political Prisoner 44 yrs: UM: At 87 in Marbella, Spain: January 28 1978

KITCHEN, Mrs. Sabina: Mother of Union Movement's Ken, Kitchen of Leamington Spa: A staunch supporter of the Movement. On 8 December 1975

LIBBITER, Mrs.: mother of Gladys Walsh of Essex: both British Union, Limehouse: in 101st year February 3 1973

LINKLETT, Sidney: East Ham BU: brother of FOM's John, E/Ham D/T: Severely wounded Italy 1943, East Surreys. December 1986

LIVINGS, Leslie: Leytonstone BU: March 1935

MARSDEN, Raymond: Manchester UM: December 16 1988

MARTIN, Dorothy: BU and UM: January 1981

PRICE, Catherine Margaret and Charlie: Hackney Br. BU and UM: parents of Len, Hackney UM D/O and wife Flo, both 188 Political Prisoners: Charlie, one of earliest E. London members, awarded Special Badge for Service by OM. January 1952 and January 1955

PRENTICE, Charles: London BU & UM: husband of Rose, 1961 UM National Womens Organiser: In Australia. January 1981

RAE, H. O.: Walthamstow U.M.: 24 January 1951

ROBERTS, John: Huntingdon, late Ipswich BU & UM: December 1954

SCORE, Mr. R. G.: Bournemouth British Union, father of D/L Score. On 13 January 1940

STEELE, Capt. C. H.: BU Parliamentary Candidate Guildford: After injury from brick on Blackshirt march. February 1939

STEWART, Fred: A/D/L Sales, BU, Harrow Branch: 31 December 1936

SUMNER, H. A.: Broadstairs BU & UM February 1973

SUTHERLAND, Mrs. M. A. "Ma": A most loyal Mosley supporter, friend and confidant of many East London British Union members in her Stepney cafe before her retirement to Norfolk. In January 1975

VERDAN ROE, Sir Alliot: Early pioneer flyer and founder of AVRO: lost 2 sons in air ops. World War 11. At 80 on 4 January 1958

WARBURTON, Edmund "Med": New Party and British Union Manchester and NHQ Branch: Lost eye in battle of Stockton-on-Tees 1933: Pioneer Corps World War 11. On 31 December 1984

WILLIAMSON, Hugh Ross: 1930s contributor to "Action" when in Labour Party: Playwright and author of "Who is for Liberty": A good friend of the Mosley Movement. In January 1978

WISEMAN, Frank C.: Worcester BU: music/singing tutor Worcester Cathedral Grammar School: composer of BU marching song "The British Battle Song": 188 Political Prisoner. In Northants March 17 1983

WOMER, James H.: Sgt. 78 Canadian Bt 1914-18: BU D/L Dorset North: 188 political prisoner 1940: speaker Wessex Branch UM. March 1953

WOODWARD, Mr. L. A.: Dorset West British Union. On 28 January 1938

OLD COMRADES



WYNNE, Mrs. Wallasey, BU & UM: December 1954

YEATS-BROWN, Francis DFC: BU NHQ Branch: 5th Lancers, Indian Army, Royal Flying Corps: author "Bengal Lancer". 19 December 1944

"Patriots; your cry is needed!
Heroes; death was not in vain!
We to your place have succeeded,
Britain shall be great again!"

Still in spirit with us.

OBITUARY

ERNIE REDGRAVE



WE REGRET to report the deaths in October last of old comrades.

With his brothers John, Albert and Jim, **ERNIE REDGRAVE** was active in support of Mosley and Union Movement from its birth. He will be remembered for his part in the fight to prevent the new Movement being driven off the streets of East London.

A market trader, he will also be remembered for his robust impromptu songs at social evenings, frequently personally to O.M.

What many of his comrades never knew was his war service with the Inns of Court Regt. in Europe throughout the Second Front. He was 72.

GEORGE EDWARD

GREENFIELD

An early Blackshirt, **GEORGE EDWARD GREENFIELD**, an artist and amateur actor, we met for the first time for many years at the Commemoration Dinner in 1987. He was 79.

THANKS

Editor thanks readers for Christmas and 'Get Well' cards.

FRIENDS OF O.M. **British Union Day**

6.30 pm **MAY-DAY BUFFET SUPPER**

Saturday April 28 1990

COMRADE

NEWSLETTER OF FRIENDS OF O.M.

NO.23 APRIL/MAY 1990



"The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow"

THE WHITE AMERICAN is now a diminishing species, overwhelmed by a tidal wave of immigration from Asia and Latin America....add a few decades, and the America we know will have changed beyond recognition.If the English language survives....it will be infused with words we have never heard of...With it will come a social revolution, altering everything from the way history is viewed to education, culture and politics.

Daily Mail April 5 1990

For Whom the Bell Tolls...

ADIÓS WHITE AMERICANS

Dire echo for Britain, Europe

IN JUST TWO GENERATIONS, the average American will not be tracing his ancestral line back to Europe - but to Asia and Latin America. The white Americans will be a minority in their own land claimed the Daily Mail in a major story filed by New York correspondent George Gordon.

Signs of America disappearing as a dominant economic force and world superpower have become evident in recent years, but the rest of the world is unaware of "an even more serious vanishing act - that of the American people themselves."

The 'browning' of America, as put by Gordon, once only speculation, is verified by recent census. By immigration and birth, Asians are increasing by 22 per cent, Hispanics from Latin America 21 per cent, black by 12 per cent and whites by less than 2 per cent.

But Gordon is not speaking the words of a prophet. Much is happening now.

"The great American melting pot is already changing hue, and whites in cities as diverse as Detroit and Miami are experiencing the oddity and strangeness of being outnumbered in their own communities."

In California, whites now only account for 58 per cent of its 26 million population and its white pupils a minority at some 31 per cent, and in elementary and secondary schools in New York State non-whites

are at 40 per cent.

America's new immigrants are different to those of to those of the past. They retain their own customs and in a number of large cities, newspapers, TV and radio programmes are produced in their native tongue, English regarded as a second language.

"A huge area of Detroit can only be negotiated with the aid of an expert on Middle East languages. A society of 200,000 eats, drinks and thrives as though still around the Eastern Mediterranean." In San Jose, "the Vietnam surname Nguyen outnumber the Joneses in the telephone book by 14 columns to eight."

Even Blacks who for two decades have had under the law, 'positive discrimination' at the expense of the whites in many areas, are discriminated against in



Daily Mail, Thursday, April 5

jobs because they cannot speak the 'native' language.

"The bewildering speed of the takeover of America has rocked academic institutions" says Gordon. Whites are bitterly objecting to special deals for minority students with nothing being done for 'real Americans'.

Gordon asks "How will the whites react to being pushed into minority status? How will the new Americans react to supporting an ageing population of whites?"

And "What is happening is a disaster" quoting political commentator Norman Podhoretz who warns "Not only because it will destroy a precious social inheritance, but because it could lead to enormous unrest, even violence."

The 'browning' of America, as put by Gordon, once only speculation, is verified by recent census. By immigration and birth, Asians are increasing by 22 per cent, Hispanics from South America 21 per cent, blacks by 12 per cent and whites by less than 2 per cent.

For Britain the message is clear. We are treading the same road and catching up fast.

For Europe. Time to get her house in order - fast. The 'brown' American is unlikely to have the desire to shed his blood in her defence.

British Union
ROLL OF HONOUR
1939 1945

"What though we ourselves be
slitten,
This, our Faith can never die!"

AUSTIN, Sgt. W.G. 'Bill':
1st Bn KRRC: Liverpool
British Union: 26: killed
in action Tunisia: 10 May
1943: Lies in Medjez-el-
Bab War Cemetery, Tunisia.

AYRES, Pte. Francis 'Nipper':
6th Bn Green Howards:
Limehouse British Union:
20: killed in action near
Dunkirk 25 May 1940: Lies
Oye-Plage Communal Cem-
etery, France.

BREWER, Cpl. A.A. J: 2nd Bn
Black Watch: Dorset
British Union: killed in
action Burma 5 April
1944: Name inscribed on
Rangoon Memorial

EAST, Lt. Philip: 5th Bn
Queen's Own Cameron
Highlanders: Leytonstone
British Union: 26: killed
in action Tunisia 24
April 1943: Lies in
Medjez-el-Bab War Cem-
etery, Tunisia.

FITCH, Sq/Ldr. R.L.J. DFC:

RAF Clapham
Brit. Union
26: killed
in flying
ops Norfolk
21 May 1945
Buried St.
Nicholas
Churchyard
Kelvedon Hatch, Essex.



GILL, Sgt. Pil. B.W. RAF VR
killed in flying acc-
ident No.3 Glider Train-
School 28 May 1943 after
release from 188 political
imprisonment. Age 22
he was Leeds British
Union where he now lies
in a collective grave
at Harehills Cemetery.

IRVINE, Pte. R: 1/5 Bn
Queens Royal Regt: 21:
Shoreditch British Union
killed in action near
Dunkirk 28 May 1940:
Lies Strazeele Communal
Cemetery, France.

MITFORD, Maj. The Hon. Tom:

KRRC: NHQ
Branch Brit-
ish Union:
brother of
Lady Mosley:
killed in action:
age 36
Burma 4 April
1945.



He is buried at Taukkyan
War Cemetery, Rangoon.

For them -
A Greater Sacrifice...
And a Greater Glory.

"My object throughout was to unite as many as possible of those who were in favour of the complete union of Europe....The prospect was open for a National Party of Europe to which men of all opinions could adhere, provided they were agreed on the one decisive point of making Europe a Nation..." *Oswald Mosley: "My Life"*

A National Party of Europe for

A EUROPEAN EUROPE

THE EUROPEAN DECLARATION

WE, being Europeans conscious of a tradition which derives from classic Greece and Rome, and of a civilisation which during three thousand years has given thought, beauty, science and leadership to mankind, and feeling for each other the close relationship of a great family whose quarrels in the past have proved the heroism of our peoples but whose division in the future would threaten the life of our continent with the same destruction which extinguished the genius of Hellas and led to the triumph of alien values, now declare with pride our European communion of blood and spirit in the following urgent and practical proposals of our new generation which challenge present policies of division, delay and subservience to the destructive materialism of external powers before which the splendour of our history, the power of our economy, the nobility of our traditions and the inspiration of our ideals must never be surrendered:

[1] That Europe a Nation shall forthwith be made a fact. This means that Europe shall have a common government for purposes of foreign policy, defence, economic policy, finance and scientific development. It does not mean Americanisation by a complete mixture of the European peoples which is neither desirable nor possible.

[2] That European government shall be elected by free vote of the whole people of Europe every four years at elections which all parties may enter. This vote shall be expressed in the election of a parliament which will have the power to select the government and at any time to dismiss it by vote of censure carried by a two-thirds majority. Subject to this power of dismissal, government shall have full authority to act during its period of office in order to meet the fast moving events of the new age of science and to carry out the will of the people as

expressed by their majority vote.

[3] That national parliaments in each member country of Europe a Nation shall have full power over all social and cultural problems, subject only to overriding power of European Government in finance and its other defined spheres, in particular the duty of economic leadership.

[4] That the economic leadership of government shall be exercised by means of the wage-price mechanism, first to secure similar conditions of fair competition in similar industries by payment of the same wages, salaries, pensions and fair profits as science increases the means of production for an assured market, thus securing continual equilibrium between production and consumption, eliminating slump and unemployment and progressively raising the standard of life. Capital and credit shall be made available to the underdeveloped regions of Europe from the surplus at present

expatriated from our continent.

[5] That intervention by government at the three key points of wages, prices, where monopoly conditions prevail, and the long term purchase of agricultural and other primary products alone is necessary to create the third system of a producer's state in conditions of a free society which will be superior both to rule by finance under American capitalism or rule by bureaucracy under communist tyranny. It is at all times our duty in the solidarity of the European community to assist each other to combat the destruction of European life and values from without and from within by the overt and covert attack of communism.

[6] That industries already nationalised will be better conducted by worker's ownership or syndicalism than by state bureaucracy, but the system of wage-price mechanism will, in full development, make irrelevant the

question of the ownership of industry by reason of the decisive economic leadership of elected government, and will bring such prosperity that workers will have no interest in controversies which belong to the 19th century.

[7] With the creation of Europe a Nation as a third power strong enough to maintain peace, a primary object of the European government will be to secure the immediate withdrawal of both Russian and American forces from the occupied territories and military bases of Europe. Europe must be strongly armed as America or Russia until mutual disarmament can be secured by the initiative of a European leadership which will have no reason to fear economic problems caused by disarmament as has capitalist America, nor to desire the force of arms for purposes of imperialistic aggression as does communist Russia.

→ 3



AFTER VENICE: Mosley speaks at a National Party of Europe meeting in Trafalgar Square, May 13 1962

● "THE EUROPEAN DECLARATION", agreed at the Conference of Venice in March 1962 and noted in *The Spectator* excerpt in our last issue is printed in response to readers enquiries.

Originated by Oswald Mosley, the Conference brought together various European parties, who, with a few amendments, adopted his full Europe a Nation policy and further decided to set up a Bureau de Liaison, the united name to be the National Party of Europe.

After a series of meetings to establish the Liaison, lack of finance prevented the development of a permanent organisation, and persecution and repression imposed on its adherents in mainland Europe led to frustration and bitterness, and they retreated back to nationalism.

"What has been done will one day be done again, on a broader front and in a greater way" said Mosley. "We proved it possible to bring men together from the most diverse standpoints and with the strongest national sentiments in an European policy as complete and wholehearted as Europe a Nation...all is possible when time is ripe."

There has been much change in world situation since Venice but Mosley was ever ahead of his time and his ideas never static. His belief in 'eternal synthesis' would accommodate new thinking by new minds necessary to achieve the overall purpose of a united European Europe.

"When the time is ripe": for a National Party of Europe?

JUNGLE FEVER SPREADS THROUGH TORY PARTY

MRS. THATCHER had best not buy any slow-growing pot plants for No.10. She's not likely to see them flower. The skids are under the Iron Maiden and the Tory ship has no intention of going down with the Captain.

In the wings stands Michael 'Tarzan' Hesselstine, he of the straw hair and piercing gaze. At a moments notice he's ready to swing out of the undergrowth on some sturdy creeper, giving full voice to a spot of jungle yodelling designed to rally the faithful.

It's not going to be easy though. The Labour Party has finally got its head together.

2 European Declaration

[8] The emergence of Europe as a third great power will bring to an end the political and military power of U.N.O., because these three great powers will then be able to deal directly and effectively with each other. The peace of the world can best be maintained by direct and continuous contact between these three great powers which represent reality instead of illusion and hypocrisy. The production of nuclear weapons will be confined to these three great powers until mutual disarmament can be secured.

[9] That colonialism shall be brought to an end. A way will be found to maintain or to create in African states under government of non-European but African origin amounting to about two-thirds of the continent, and other states under government by peoples of European and Afrikaner origin amounting to about one-third. In non-European territory, any European who chose to remain should stay without vote or political rights. He would be in the same position as any resident in another country, subject to the maintenance of basic human rights within their own communities, by reciprocal arrangement between European and non-European territories. Conversely, any non-European remaining in European territory would have neither

THOUGHTS THAT COME IN A

By GORDON
BECKWELL

A Column
of
Forward
Looking
personal
views on
Mosley
Thought

It realises that policies that were the kiss of death to its chances in three general elections aren't likely to work in a fourth. The party has moved on to claim the 'high moral ground'.

On TV an aged Tory Baroness waded into a squirming Labour worthy with Rottweiler-like ferocity. "Was it the high moral ground when you abandoned opposition to the Common Market, abandoned unilateral nuclear disarmament, abandoned opposition to the sale of council houses? Or are you just doing it to win votes? I've got more respect for that man over there than you." Here she pointed a bony finger at a blinking Arthur

vote or political rights, subject to the maintenance of the same basic human rights. Multi-racial government breaks down everywhere in face of the non-European demand for one man one vote which they learnt from the West, and becomes a squalid swindle of loaded franchises to postpone the day of surrender rather than to solve the problem. Better by far is the clean settlement of clear division. Europe must everywhere decide what it will hold and what it will relinquish. The Europeans in union will have the power of decision. Today they lack only the will. We will hold what is vital to the life of Europe, and we will in all circumstances be true to our fellow-Europeans, particularly where they are now threatened in African territory.

[10] That the space of a fully united Europe including the lands liberated by American and Russian withdrawal, the British Dominions and other European overseas territories, and approximately one-third of Africa is a just requirement for the full life of the Europeans in a producer and consumer system which shall be free of usury and capitalism. Within the wide region of our nation the genius of modern science shall join with the culture of three millennia to attain ever higher forms of European life which shall continue to be the inspiration of mankind.

Scargill sitting opposite. "At least he says what he means and means what he says."

Great stuff but soon forgotten by a gullible democratic electorate. How then should we judge Mrs. Thatcher? It is a common failing in politics to think that those we dislike are completely devoid of talent. So we acknowledge her strength of character and belief in applying the enterprise principle to sectors of the economy where efficiency was considered a yawn. But in the process she has succeeded in antagonising every section of society bar none. Almost everybody who has served in her cabinets/home owners with crippling mortgage rates; student by making them borrow for their education; doctors, the sick and the elderly by dismantling the NHS and putting nothing in its place; the moderate long-suffering ambulance men and women; and just about everybody who will pay the poll tax because just about everybody will pay much more. She is completely out of tune with the spirit of European unity now sweeping from the Atlantic to the Urals.

The good housekeeping qualities of a grocer's daughter have much to commend them but high offices of state require a vision of much much more besides.

THE WILL TO ACHIEVEMENT

VISION seems to be in short supply in the H. of C. these days. For many presence there is just a vehicle for overdeveloped egos or a sandwich course in their business careers. Recently, several Government Ministers gave as their reasons for political withdrawal "a wish to spend more time with their young families". Can you imagine Mosley standing down in 1939 on such a facile pretext? Yet no members of his illustrious household ever complained of being deprived of his influence to my knowledge.

In Mosley's great book 'The Alternative' [1947] he described the three types of men and women drawn towards politics. The 'Will to Comfort Type' is simply in it to feather their nests. The 'Will to Power Type' finds satisfaction in the exercise of authority as an end in itself. But the greatest Type, and the one likely to graduate to greatness, is the 'Will to Achievement Type'. Here power is valued only as an instrument of creative accomplishment.

But even this Will is not alone sufficient to qualify as one of the new breed of men and women who would one day rule with scientific logic and efficiency. This was reserved for the Thought-Deed Man or Soldier - Poet: one capable of deep contemplative thought followed always by swift assertive action to turn ideas into beneficent reality.

"More than ever are such men and women needed in this the greatest of all ages of decision."

'Comrade' SPECIAL OFFER

We are able to offer our readers a limited number of two books by Oswald Mosley: "Two Germans of Genius" [1986], and by Diana Mosley: "The Writings of Rebecca West" [1987]

Both are hand-set and printed letter-set based in blue Van Beck cloth. Only 125 of Sir Oswald's, and 150 of Lady Diana's were printed. The two essays were first published in "The European" in the 1930s.

£10.00 per book

Orders to John Christian, 101, Orwell Court, Pownall Road, London, E8 4PP

Add for post and packing: One book £1.15: Two books £1.50, Cheque to Friends of O.M. Allow 28 days for delivery.

Two Germans of Genius by Oswald Mosley

Edited & with an Afterword
by Diana Mosley



Oswald Mosley devoted seven years to the cause of Fascism during the 1930s when Great Britain was beset by deep social and political turmoil. After the war, and until his death in 1980, he supported the ideal of a united Europe. To that end he founded a magazine called *The European*, in which the two essays printed here first appeared. They are about the two Germans he admired most, Goethe and Wagner.

This book has been hand-set and printed letterpress by R. T. Risk in an edition of 125 copies. It is bound in blue Van Beck cloth from Holland with a printed label on the back-strip. There are 44 pages. The paper is Lineweave with a deckle fore-edge. The type-face is 12-point Bembo.

The Typographer Bookshop

The Stone Cottage, Bennington Road
Frampton, New Hampshire 03043

ISBN 0-930126-23-8

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"I too can hiss the
hair of men erect,
because my lips are
venomous with truth!"
Roy Campbell

COBRA

LIKE the white Americans featured in our front page story, we white British are beginning to feel outnumbered in many of our towns and cities.

By peoples of vastly different cultures, who for that very reason, find it impossible to integrate.

This we can understand for we also find it impossible to integrate with them. We cannot help but notice however, that this inability to integrate is not obvious for some of the 'new British', their lack of cultural affinity not preventing the sharing of the benefits of other areas of our national life, benefits often hard won by past efforts of the indigenous British.

Unlike America with its vast space and historically short cultural heritage, we are a small overpopulated island, our roots going back into the mists of time.

And into this simmering cauldron it is now proposed to add thousands of Hong Kong Chinese to further swamp the indigenous British, an ingredient that is likely to bring Britain's melting pot to boiling point and explode into a British Lebanon.

If they can feel and see, the British dead of two world wars cannot but wrythe in agony for what has been perpetuated on their kinsfolk in the island home from which they sprung, 'and for whose dear sake they bled'.

For the tragedy they have implanted on their own island race in the false name of honour and humanity, the guilty men, successive waves of politicians of all parties, unseeing beyond the tawdry games they play in the Parliamentary club they misname democracy, would, in a bygone age, have been impeached.

The Heritage

Our Fathers in a wondrous age,
Ere yet the Earth was small,
Ensured to us a heritage,
And doubted not at all
That we, the children of their heart,
Which then did beat so high,
In later time should play the part
For our posterity.

A thousand years they steadfast built,
To 'vantage us and ours,
The Walls that were a world's despair,
The sea-constraining Towers;
Yet in their midstmost pride they knew,
And unto Kings made known,
Not all from these their strength they drew,
Their faith from brass or stone.

Youth's passion, manhood's fierce intent,
With age's judgement wise,
They spent, and counted not they spent,
At daily sacrifice.
Not lambs alone or purchased doves
Or tithe of trader's gold -
Their lives most dear, their dearer loves,
They offered up of old.

Refraining e'en from lawful things,
They bowed the neck to bear
The unadorned yoke that brings
Stark toil and sternest care.
Wherefore through them we stand,
From all but sloth and pride secure,
In a delightsome land.

Then, fretful, murmur not they gave
So great a charge to keep,
Nor dream that awestruck Time shall save
Their labour while we sleep.
Dear-bought and clear, a thousand year,
Our fathers' title runs.
Make we likewise their sacrifice,
Defrauding not our sons.

Rudyard Kipling

ROLL OF HONOUR

OUR BLACKSHIRT DEAD

HOW THEY DIED: THE STORY
OF ANOTHER OLD COMRADE
ON OUR ROLL OF HONOUR
CAN NOW BE TOLD.

MAJ. THE HON. TOM MITFORD



Young Tom

Major The Hon. Tom Mitford, only brother of Lady Mosley, joined the Territorial Queen's Westminsters in 1936, when he also joined British Union.

A clever and gifted musician, he was a year older than Lady Mosley and they "loved each other dearly. When we were children he was closer to me than my [five] sisters...and we loved each other dearly..." They always spent Tom's schooldays together and had the same tastes in books, music, and later politics, an affinity that remained constant in the mature years.

In July 1939 when Mosley was marching up the hall at his giant Earl's Court meeting and demonstration for peace, Tom gave him the British Union salute and it was reported in a newspaper "with a comment implying that an officer in the army could not at the same time be a follower of Sir Oswald Mosley. Tom's Colonel strongly upheld him and said he was not going to be deprived of one of his best officers; no more was heard of this nonsense."

During a leave in 1941 Tom visited Mosley in Brixton Prison, then on to his sister in Holloway Goal. The same

evening he dined with 'Cousin Winston' at Downing Street. [Churchill was Lady Mosley's cousin]

A noted cutter of red tape, Churchill, "after his conversation with Tom during dinner ordered the prison to find a way" and the Mosleys were reunited in a house called the Preventive Detention Block in Holloway Goal after eighteen months separation.

In 1944, Tom Mitford was back in England at Staff College after service in North Africa, visiting his sister most weekend at a house in Hampshire where she and Mosley were under house arrest.

The imminent invasion of Germany was imminent and he decided that this "was something that he would prefer not to take part in" and volunteered for the Far East and in January 1945 was posted to Burma.

Now a Major serving with the 11th Bn. K.R.R.C. [1st. Bn. Queen's Westminsters] he was attached on 20th March to the 1st Bn. Devonshire Regiment with duties of 2nd in Command.

The Battle of the Plains, between the Chindwin River and Mandalay had been raging since December and two armies were converged on the city. The Devons were poised close to the junction of the Chindwin and the Irrawaddy and were ordered to capture the Tamok Canal West Bank the day after Major Mitford's arrival, which was achieved in two days.

On March 24th, the battalion was ordered to move as quickly as possible into Myaung-U-Magyidan area. During the action, the C.O. and Major Mitford moved up to D Coy who were holding an enemy position with considerable opposition in a village where the Japanese were well dug in.

D Coy extracted its forward platoon and moved into perimeter defence in an action which suffered 2 other ranks killed, and 8 other ranks and Major Mitford wounded. He paid the supreme sacrifice a week later.

● "A Life of Contrasts":
Diana Mosley
○ "Loved Ones": Diana Mosley

MOSLEY



The Man

9. by SID BAILEY

THE MANY THOUSANDS of people who had the good fortune to hear Oswald Mosley speak at a great British Union or Union Movement rally must feel proud to say: "I was There", because they had the privilege of hearing the greatest orator of the twentieth century..

The man who had consistently attracted more people than any other politician, and who was just as consistently attacked by all the Old Gang politicians, the Press and the BBC who, as it is now known, deliberately kept him off the air for more than thirty years.

Why?

Because they feared the

man who disturbed their slumbers and wanted to get things done, had the ideas to do them, and the will and energy to do them. Ideas that both before and after the last war have never been proved wrong.

And because his very existence and independent voice outside establishment politics highlighted the corruption of the party political game played ad nauseam as the British people in many areas suffered and starved, their basic wealth destroyed in a senseless and unnecessary war, and their heritage and identity handed over to the market place of alien cultures.

Mosley was never a vindictive man towards his political opponents. He never condemned them as men, only, Tory and Labour alike, that their beliefs were wrong.

Nor was he the egoist in pursuit of power at the expense of his supporters as the media would have you believe.

He always stayed behind after his meetings to thank the stewards for making it possible for him to speak by their maintenance of good order, often in spite of concerted efforts by Red mobs to prevent him.

This was no gimmickry. He always had a great feeling for his comrades, from the ex-servicemen of the First World War whose bitter hardships he shared, to the thousands who had supported him during his stormy political life.

'O.M.' was unique in that he never forgot a name or face. Even after many years, old supporters who had believed they had not been noticed during their time of activity, were remembered by name when 'the Old Man', with a smile and firm grip of hand, found them 'lurking' among contemporary active supporters at meetings and reunions.

It is with great personal emotion that I recall an incident that happened in 1963.

My father, an old East London Blackshirt, had a bad heart attack and was committed to hospital. I was working night-shift at the time so could only visit him during the day.

Imagine my surprise and joy one day to find O.M. sitting by his bed, both of them chatting heartily and cheerfully about old times in the Movement. Mosley wished him a speedy recovery which did occur. I am sure the Leader's visit kept my father going for a few more years.

This was the Mosley who loved his comrades, through thick and thin. A great leader who never lost the common touch. Who would not ask of his followers the execution of a task he was not prepared to do himself.

Above all his brilliance and his courage: a true comrade.

And we who accepted his leadership and shared that warm comradeship for the larger part of our lives,

Birthday Dinner



IN HONOUR of Lady Mosley's Eightieth Birthday in June, a Dinner has been arranged in Central London on Saturday June 9th.

Tickets at £11 may be reserved from the organisers, Sanctuary Press Ltd.

Further enquiries to:

Jeffrey Hamm
Sanctuary Press Ltd
Nash House
Fishponds Road
London SW17

look back with pride for we also know that we marched with a great statesman whose predictions are becoming an every-day reality.

There must be many old comrades who have personal tales to tell of O.M. Let us have them printed in "Comrade". They will not only stir old comrades emotions, but also inspire the younger generation with a purpose rising from the greatness of our beloved Leader, and from that unique spirit of those

And take up the message that Mosley will never die.



BORN ALMOST UNDER the 'Great Bell of Bow' of Cockney lore, our contributor Sid Bailey first supported Mosley as a schoolboy as seen here [above] with British Union Bethnal Green Branch's Special Section for juniors after an inspection by Mosley in 1937. After wartime RAF service he joined Union Movement at its birth, becoming one of its most active workers. Seen here [left] on duty at a Mosley Trafalgar Square meeting in 1963, he became a local 'landmark' at London's 'Pettycoat Lane' market for his lone pitch selling the Movement's for some 20 years.

Father Jack Bailey, an active Labour Party worker, was one of the earliest East Londoners to join Mosley in 1934. He is pictured here [left] receiving the Leader's Award Badge for service from O.M. at the 1954 Union Movement Conference.

Brother Fred, also a schoolboy supporter of Mosley and British Union, was the organiser of the first Union Movement Bow Branch, and later London Organiser. He is seen, [right] leading a UM march into Trafalgar square in 1961.

Fred and Sid Bailey were chosen by Mosley for the small Mosley Directorate to run Union Movement after his retirement from active politics in 1966. They are both members of the Friends of O.M. Council.

The Baileys of Bow



In Memoriam

"Hark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages.
Britain listens and rejoices,
Gazing on Tradition's pages...."

- CAMPBELL, J.H.:** Manchester BU & UM; May 1952
CAMPBELL, Roy: "Flowering Rifle" poet and patriot; friend of Franco Spain and British Union; died car crash; April 1957
CHITTEL, F.B.: TU bus driver & Morden BU; April 1939
COLE, Capt. T.F.: Burgess HMTI BU; May 1939
DENTON, Walter: BU D/L Doncaster; 188 political prisoner then armed forces; UM; visited by O.M. in hospital shortly before death; April 1962
DICKINSON, W. Pop: Manchester BU; father of Reg/Insp Charlie Dickinson; April 1940
DIXON, Mrs. Lillian: wife of BU D/L Jameson Dixon; April 1966
DOHERTY, Albert: D/Tr, Manchester Hulme Br. BU; April 1937
DUNIG, "Paddy": Early member UM London Drum Corps; 12 April 1986
DUNAYNE, Henry: BU and S/London UM; April 1976
EASTWELL, Jack: early member Bethnal Green BU; April 1975
ENGLESH, Mrs. Marjorie Angela: mother Kensington UM organiser Michael English; April 1952
HOGGARTH, George: D/Tr Eye, Suffolk; BU and UM; 9 April 1985
LOCKE, Ida: Norwich BU; May 1937
MART, Dr. W.T.D. BM LRCS BSc: Sheffield BU; 19 May 1940
McKEOWIE, Lt/Col: BU D/L Hastings; 13 May 1940
MERRITT, William: Tottenham BU; In Australia April 1980
MITFORD, Unity Valkyrie: BU; sister of Lady Mosley; 28 May 1948
NIGHTINGALE, A.: BU D/L Horsham; 188 political prisoner; April 1948
PEARSON, Lady: BU Parl. Candidate for Canterbury; 10 April 1959
PHILLIPS, Joe: Limehouse BU; April 1951
PORTER, Wally: Dorset BU; 188 political prisoner; UM; May 1981
POMELL, Vice-Adm G.B.: BU Parl. Candidate Portsmouth; 27 May 1952
PRITCHARD, David: BU NHQ staff; April 1935
REDESDALE, Lady: mother of Lady Mosley; May 1963
ROBERTSON, Kenneth: Shoreditch BU; May 1939
SCOTT, Arthur: Notts BU & UM; 188 political prisoner; May 1959
SHEPHERD, Fred: East London BU & UM organiser N/London; 30 April 1988
SIBLEY, Alf: East London BU, husband & father of UM's Ann & Jerry; April 1976
SIMPKINS, Eric: Woodford; BU & UM Drum Corps; husband of Pam; 4 April 1988
SURETIES, C.H.R.: BU Dorset West, UM Bournemouth; April 1982
THATCHER, Joe: Wilts. farmer & cattle dealer BU & UM; May 1976
WYNN, John: RFC pilot; BU; 188 political prisoner; compiler of wartime classic "It might have happened to you"; 22 April 1980
- "Patriots; your cry is heeded!
 Heroes; death was not in vain!
 We to your place have succeeded,
 Britain shall be great again!"
- Still in spirit with us.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

DAMNANDA HAERESIS

Some lines I wrote at the age of 18 - a long time ago!....

*O damned Democracy
 That clutters up
 The channels of our country's
 Once lively flood;
 And hides,
 The stifled spirit of
 A nation's faith.
 Oh! but one day...
 The shameful gamble of the
 croupiers
 Is interrupted by the risen
 flood,
 The roaring
 And the clamour of
 our people,
 Surging forward to a proud
 And honourable destiny;
 The sham and crumbling
 system
 Cracks apart;
 The rotten, tainted politics
 Of yesterday
 All smothered
 By the patriot's banner,
 Blotting out the evidence
 Of Imperial betrayal.*

P.J. Wessex

● Our East London born clerical contributor wrote these lines in 1934, within sight of British Union's proudly flying banners, and to the challenging beat of their drums.

And now, nearly sixty years on, our former P.O.W. and army chaplain methinks still retains some of the idealism of his youth. [Ed.]

THE REAL CULTURE

COMRADE recently quoted Kipling, and a Roy Campbell quote heads the COBRA column. I have always loved them both. They speak my language. Campbell - Kipling - Byron, ALL our Kinsmen.

My favourite Roy Campbell quote, from his 'Flowering Rifle':

*"Whose smarmy ruse in fear of
 coming slaughter,
 Is - mixing vodka with the
 holy water -"*

It is most important to SMASH the myths - it is WE that bear within us the real Culture. WE are the heirs of the Elizabethians, the Poets, the Warriors - WE, not the parasite scum in the illiterate "Parliament" and "Con-Servative" Barty!!! ("The Barty!!!")

Desmond Irvine

London

THATCHER OUT?

Signs are pointing strongly to a tumultuous start to the 1990s in Britain. The covertly controlled press, radio and visual media, are gradually but inexorably moving public opinion away from Tory Government responsibility towards an antipathy to what is called 'Thatcherism', as the International Finance dictators systematically and subtly dominate the British. Only nominal efforts will be made, although highly publicised, to ameliorate the discontent.

In fact subtle stirring will continue, underlining the fault as being: NOT Parliamentary (least of all the Financial System) or Parties, but that of the so-called 'Iron Lady' herself.

Nothing new in this tactic. However, when viewed against the international political manoeuvres insofar as we are allowed to perceive, to discard Margaret Thatcher seems the likely ploy.

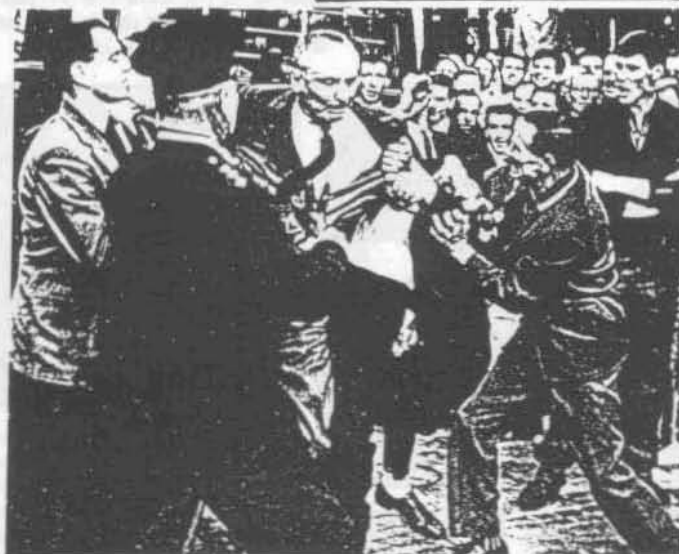
Robert Richard Northumberland

● This letter was received at the turn of the year but mislaid. We find it appropriate to publish it now as a compliment to our contributor's foresight. [Ed.]

THANKS

To anonymous York donator of £25. Ed.

LOOKING BACK



BIRTHDAY GREETINGS to old comrade DICKIE BURWOOD of his 84th on May 12th.

And a time to look back at the old battler's dedication to the defence of Mosley's freedom to speak in our English streets, against those using violence to silence his voice.

Our photo shows the then 56 yr old Dickie, fending off an assault on Mosley as he arrived to speak at a Ridley Road, Dalston meeting in July 1962. Also fighting off the attack another old stalwart, Paddy Duhig, (left), remembered in our current In Memoriam

OLD COMRADES



FOREVER MOSLEY

When I read the article by Bill Dods in "Comrade" last year, it reflected in some way my feelings the day that Mosley died.

I was so sad and had no one to talk to. So I penned my thoughts. Though not wonderful verse, they are straight from the heart.

*The day we heard that Mosley died, a part of us died too.
 What a wonderful Leader this land might have had,
 If the many had followed the few.*

He could have had an easy life, instead he chose to fight:

*For the good of dear old England,
 Its people to unite.*

But time was running out; the war came to intervene.

If that had never happened, who knows what might have been.

Maybe others yet unknown will end the struggle started long ago.

And reap the harvest from the seeds we set to grow.

*As we give a last salute, and say a sad farewell,
 We say "God Bless you Mosley", in our hearts you will ever dwell"*

Glad Walsh

Clacton

FRIENDS OF O.M. British Union Day
MAY-DAY BUFFET SUPPER
 6.30 pm
 Saturday April 28 1990

COMRADE

NEWSLETTER OF FRIENDS OF O.M.

NO.24. JUNE/JULY 1990



"The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow"

1940 CALAIS, DUNKIRK, BATTLE OF BRITAIN...and the BRITISH POLITICAL PRISONER

Some of the victims were mere infants, others as old as seventy. Many of the British detainees had fought in the Great War, some even in the Boer War, their scars bearing testament to their loyalty to King and country...Some of those detained were disabled before their ordeal...Some received premature release through death.....

D.J.Lewis: Illusions of Grandeur: 1987

Echoes of a People's courage—
Witness to a Nation's shame

WHEN BRITISH FREEDOM DIED

By JOHN CHRISTIAN

A YEAR OF Remembrance and Commemoration. The 50th Anniversary of the heroic defence of Calais by the 30th Brigade, of the 'miracle' of Dunkirk, of the Battle of Britain - and the birth of the British Political Prisoner, sired by Government suppression of age old liberties born out of Magna Carta, and the freedom for which it was said we had gone to war, in Britain died.

"Fight and die" was Churchill's message to the men of Calais, and the four doomed battalions dutifully fulfilled the order from that great architect of disaster and master of English prose.

Described by him later as "one of the finest rearguard actions of the war", their sacrifice helped to make possible the rescue of over 300,000 of Britain's army, an epic successfully concluded by the traditional skills and determination of the Royal Navy, the courageous civilian volunteers in their little ships, and the doggedness and individual heroism, so inborn in our island race, of officers and men of the British Army during its agony on and around the Dunkirk beaches.

Back in France that late May, one ponders on the

thoughts of Corporal Gordon Bowler of the doomed territorial 1st Battalion Queens Victoria Rifles as he trudged to a German POW camp. Did he dwell on his earlier fight to prevent the war with his Blackshirt comrades, many of whom, recruited in East London, now lay dead in blood-spattered Calais, wastage in Churchill's 'finest rearguard action of the war'.

Their sacrifice no doubt saved the lives of many British lads. But not of

8

To those 753 innocent men and women of British Union, who 50 years ago this summer were detained without charge or trial in prisons and concentration camps by a foul government act of political knavery - the few that are left, and the memory and spirits of the many that have gone - in eternal comradeship and union with the living spirit of Mosley, this issue of "Comrade" is dedicated.

THEIR FINEST HOUR

THE HOME SECRETARY told it that MI5 had been unable to produce any evidence that either the leaders of the BU or the organisation itself had anything to do with Fifth Column activities....

[Report to War Cabinet 22 May 1940] ●

Nevertheless — 'An Order in Council amending DR18B was made the same day, and orders for the detention of Mosley and 33 other BU leaders were signed immediately'. ●

They were arrested the next day.

● British Intelligence in the Second World War: Security and Counter-Intelligence, by Prof. F.H.Hinsley and C.A.G.Stekins: Official history: HMSO April 1990

1940: THE TRUTH EMERGES—

THIS SORDID CHAPTER of clumsy state coercion, of mistakes, mismanagement, and mendacity, of casual careless injustices committed against the innocent and then concealed beneath

a velvet curtain of secrecy and crude wartime patriotism, provides scope for a book in its own right - a book which would expose the myriad of personal tragedies which lay behind bureaucratic errors and indifference.

"False information or a mistaken identity was enough to cause some victims to languish in prison for an indeterminate period, charged with no offence, with access to no judicial review of their cases....At best the mass imprisonment was administered with an

8

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

"What though we ourselves
be smitten,
This our faith can never die!"

AITKEN, Sgt/Ldr Lionel: RAF 59 Sqn & British Union "1" Squad: killed in action bombing German convoy off Calais on 7 July 1941: Lies in Dunkirk Town Cemetery.

CHAMBERS, Donald S: RAF: 18B political prisoner: Army: British Union Drum Corps Released army to die, age 24, on 18 June 1943.

FAIRY, W/O David George: RAF 212 Sqn & Leytonstone British Union: killed on ops Cochin, India, 27 June 1944: Lies Madras War Cemetery.

MILLAN, L/Cpl 'Paddy': Corps of Military Police and British Union "1" Squad: killed in action, Battle of Knightsbridge: 12 June 1942: Lies in Knightsbridge War Cemetery, Accrington, Libya.

WALSH, Sgt. Michael: RAF 156 Sqn & Limehouse British Union: 23: Missing bombing op. Bremen, 27 July 1942: Remembered on Runnymede Air Force Memorial.

THE 'FIFTH COLUMN' THAT NEVER WAS

by R.V. JONES

Reproduced from "MOST SECRET WAR" by permission of the Author
Emeritus Professor of Natural History at the University of Aberdeen



AS FAR as I could see at the time, and still more in retrospect, the fifth column in Britain was completely imaginary. But great zeal was expended by security officers in chasing reports of fireworks being let off while German aircraft were overhead. Our countryside was scanned by aircraft of the RAF looking for suspicious patterns laid out on the ground which might serve as landmarks to aid navigation of German bombers. More than one farmer was surprised by a call from security officers to explain why he had mown his hay in such a manner as to leave a striking pattern which could be seen from the air. One chapel, whose gardener had unconsciously laid out paths in the pattern of an enormous arrow as seen from the air, and which did indeed point roughly in the direction of an ammunition dump ten miles away, was raided as a suspected Fifth Column Headquarters.

Late in the evening of 30th June, I was telephoned by Group Captain Blackford, who told me that he had just returned from investigating another case, this time in Norfolk, and there was so much to it that he was sure that it was 'up my street'. He was sufficiently convinced to have some RAF policemen sent up to the area and to have persuaded the Chief Constable of Norfolk to issue search and arrest warrants. He wanted me to fly there the next morning to look over the evidence and sanction the search and arrest parties. It was an unusual job for a scientist, but it promised excitement.

I went into the Air Ministry first in the morning to look at the evidence. It was indeed much stronger than any other fifth column case I had seen. The file started, as did many others about that time, with a letter from an RAF Station Commander along the lines:

Professor Jones has been Director of Air Force Intelligence, of Scientific Intelligence in Ministry of Defence, and advisor on intelligence to Britain's intelligence agencies.

During the war he was responsible for the anticipation of new weapons developed by Germany, and heavily involved in radio navigation and radar, as in the Battle of the Beams, the Allied Bomber Offensive, and preparations for the D-Day landings. He was also in charge of intelligence against the V1 flying bomb and V2 rocket.

'Sir, I have the honour to report the following suspicious incident in the vicinity of my station in the recent past...' The station concerned was near The Wash, and the Commander claimed to be the oldest group captain in the Air Force. Certainly, he was one of the most energetic, and he had insisted on coming back from retirement, well over sixty, to 'do his bit' once again. He had organised his own dummy aerodrome, complete with fireworks, which he manipulated himself when German aircraft were overhead. From watching these aircraft he concluded that there was a fifth column radio transmitter near his station, because aircraft always approached from the same direction and then turned when almost immediately overhead to go on a new course to their targets inland. Also, he thought that he had some fifth column rivals in letting off fireworks. These factors, fireworks and aircraft changing course overhead, were common to innumerable stories all over England at that time, and the Air Staff had come to take little notice of them. Nothing therefore was done until another letter arrived from the Group Captain, again starting 'I have the honour...' but it was quite clear that by then he considered it anything but an honour to deal with the seemingly lethargic Air Staff.

'Police found that he was a Blackshirt'

The Group Captain's second letter described events that were quite remarkable and it was this letter that had led to the hurried visit from Blackford and thus to my own impending trip. Briefly, there was a radar station a few miles from the aerodrome; this station, one of our main chain, was being

troubled by jamming, and the C.O. had formed the impression that the jamming was originating locally. There was a small town a few miles away, and he had made private enquiries with the police for any suspected character who might be capable of making a jammer. The police said that they only knew of one man in the town with the necessary competence, and he was the local electrical engineer. It was here that things became interesting, because on looking into his background the police found that he was a Blackshirt, and had actually appeared on the same platform as Oswald Mosley.

Map had suspicious markings

Up to this point, there was little concrete evidence to go on, but within the past few days someone had brought into the police station a six-inch local map which had been found under a seat beside a public footpath. This map had pencil lines on it which were suspicious as one could hope for. They were line bearings from local points of vantage on to four crosses which represented the towers of the radar station. Now it was at that time an offence to make a sketch or map of any Service installation, let alone anything so secret as a radar station, and yet it was obvious that someone had deliberately triangled on to the towers for the purpose of locating them accurately.

The police recognised the map as being one sold by the Ordnance Survey through the local stationer, and they therefore visited him to see whether he had sold any such maps recently. He identified the map as one that he must have sold, but that none had been sold recently. The police were disappointed at drawing blank, but they were

visited that evening by the stationer's younger son, aged 21 or 22, who was obviously agitated and who claimed the map as his own. He was the local scoutmaster, and said that he must have lost it while explaining map-reading to his scouts. He was not asked to account for the markings, but was not given back his map, because the police immediately realized a remarkable fact: the stationer's elder son was the Blackshirt electrical engineer.

I left for Hendon after reading this, and flew to the aerodrome in time for lunch with the Group Captain. After lunch, I went with the station security officer to visit the radar C.O., and held a conference at which there were, in addition, the Chief Constable, the C.O., of the local coast defence troops, and the two policemen specially brought over from the depot at Uxbridge. We went over the evidence: it was good, but not conclusive. The weak point, I felt, was that the scoutmaster had unnecessarily put his head into the jaws of the police, but it might conceivably be a double bluff. Anyway, everyone else was convinced, and the decision whether to raid the electrical engineer's and stationer's houses rested with me. I looked at their expectant faces. If I decided against, and went back to the Air Ministry, rumours would still go on and the Air Ministry would be blamed for inaction. On the other hand, a raid would decide the thing one way or the other, and the policemen's eyes lit up when I gave my verdict in favour.

House surrounded to give covering fire

We got out our large-scale maps of the town and planned our raid. The two houses, about half a mile apart, were to be surrounded simultaneously, to prevent one being alerted by the other. The electrical engineer had a wife and we therefore took the 'Queen W.A.A.F.' of the station to look after her. Search warrants were produced and after a cup of tea we set off; I was with the party going to the electrical engineer's—he was thought to be more likely to have any apparatus, and the other party was merely to hold everything static until we had finished

INTO THIS INIQUITOUS DEN of despair, degradation, depravity, and death, came selected members of British Union, hauled in from prisons where they had been incarcerated without charges preferred against them. Free born Britons who had not broken any laws, to be used, as it is now clear, as bodies to be broken in the experiments of techniques of psychological torture by MI5.

THE HELL OF HAM COMMON

By JOHN CHRISTIAN

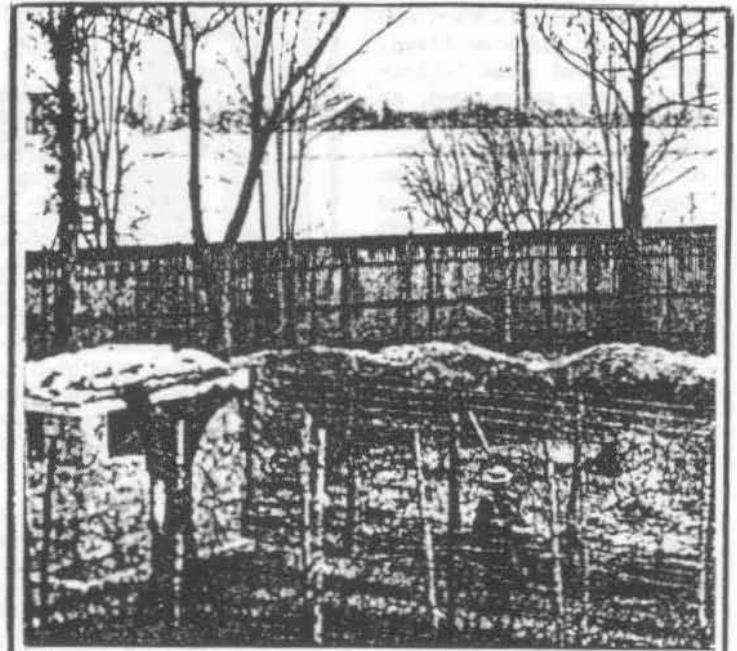
By parachutes and small boats, by air and sea from neutral countries they came, the Germans, Dutchmen and Danes, the Norwegian and Swedes, the Belgians, the Poles and others who for one reason or another had chosen to risk their lives spying for the German Abwehr in wartime Britain. Most of them were caught, fifteen of them being executed at Wandsworth, Pentonville and the Tower of London. Nearly fifty others saved their lives by 'confessions' during 'formidable interrogation' at Camp 020, MI5's 50-room Victorian mansion Latchmere House, standing in wooded grounds by the sleepy Surrey village of Ham Common.

Not all saved their lives by confession. They were effectively double-crossed by the 'Hanging Committee' set up by the MI5 interrogators. They chose who should live and who should die after considering their use as double agents, or as publicised prosecutions for propaganda purposes.

The existence of Camp 020 was so top-secret that it was not declared on the list of camps supplied to the International Red Cross and

Protecting Power for neutral inspections, and although it was run as a military establishment it was not under War Office Control.

Supremo was the Camp's Commandant, the monacled half-German Colonel R.W.G. 'Tin-eye' Stephens who was notorious for arrogance and vile temper. After the war he was charged, but found not guilty of brutal treatment to detainees at an Interrogation Centre in Germany, his accuser being



Camp 020, the top-secret MI 5 detention centre at Ham Common.

his deputy who had also served with him in Latchmere House. Most of the charges were withdrawn at the beginning of the proceedings which were held *in camera*.

And into this iniquitous den of despair, depravity, degradation and death after it opened for business in July 1940, and before the arrival of enemy agents, selected British Union men were thrust, hauled from the prisons where they languished without charges pre-

ferred against them. Free born British patriots, guiltless of broken laws, to be used as 'bodies to be broken for the use of' in the interest of experimental techniques in psychological torture by MI5.

We tell the story, edited from the memoirs of one of those unfortunate but brave Mosley men, who took all they handed out, and triumphed over his oppressors.

IT HAS HAPPENED HERE 4

2 ← 'FIFTH COLUMN'

with the engineer, and able to rejoin them. We took up positions around the house to give covering fire if necessary to the Chief Constable and Army Commander as they rushed up the garden path to give a thunderous knock on the door.

'One of the worst things I ever had to do'

The door was opened by a patently astonished young man who turned out to be the Blackshirt engineer, his wife clinging to his shoulders. She was gently taken into one room by the WAAF, while we started our search.

It stands out in my memory as one of the worst things I have ever had to do. It is not a nice thing to ransack someone else's house, and rudely search through all the minutiae and debris of domestic life; it turns out to be so pathetically like one's own. It would have been worse

still if there had been any children and we had to go through their toys.

None of these thoughts, however, seemed to affect the RAF policemen, who went about their search as enthusiastically as dogs after winged pheasant hiding under a gorse clump. We inspected the wireless set: nothing unusual. 'Look at this, doctor,' said one of the policemen, 'pages of secret calculations!' I looked; it was an old lecture notebook compiled by the engineer when he was a student, and nothing more. The policeman went away as disappointed as a dog would be when his master reproved him for retrieving a tame hen. Soon he brought back something else, but again it was nothing of importance. This was repeated many times. I could hear the policemen rummaging about upstairs. Then one of them came rushing down, saying 'Here it is!' He had found it hidden away at the bottom of a drawer of clothes, and it was a small-

ish polished wooden box which might house some scientific instrument - or might not. It was locked; we asked the engineer for the key. He astonished us by saying that he had never seen it in his life. This appeared to be an obvious lie. The policeman fiddled with the lock and ultimately got it open. They gave a yelp, and handed it to me in triumph. There, inside, was an induction coil, some wire, and some crocodile clips. Remember, we were looking for an electrical jamming apparatus, and so their yelp was certainly justified.

I looked at the engineer. His face showed surprise and embarrassment: he protested that the thing was not his. I looked at the box again; there were some instructions inside the lid. I read them, and realized that this was an electrical hair-remover. His wife, modest woman, had bought it for her personal use, and had been practising a mild deception on her hus-

band. Our search had wrecked her secret - I hope that their domestic happiness survived.

A simple explanation

After a pretence at a further search, we all left the house - at least some of us somewhat discomfited. We still had the stationer's house to explore, but it was an anticlimax after the stirring events of the last half-hour. One look at the scoutmaster showed us that he could never have the nerve to be a cold-blooded spy. His explanation was quite simple: he had bought an old prismatic compass the year before, and had fitted it with a new crosswire. He had wanted to check the accuracy of the new sight, and so he had gone out onto local eminences, and had taken bearings on the most prominent local objects, the radar towers. Actually, the sight was not aligned quite correctly, and he had accord-

→ 4

LOOKING BACK on the events of the next fortnight, I often wonder if they were real, or just a bad dream. I had read cheap American G-men fiction and seen their gangster films, but believed that 'third-degree' was never used in Britain. I had already discovered that the 'Freedom' of this great 'Free Country' was a sham and hypocritical farce. That arrest and incarceration without trial actually did happen here, in spite of Parliamentary protests under the sham thin veil of 'fifth column activity'.

I now was to have another illusion shattered. Third-degree interrogation was and is used here, cleverly camouflaged, but third-degree nevertheless.

From the moment I was handed over to the Army on leaving Brixton Prison, I lived for two weeks in a state of starvation and uncertainty, deliberately engineered to weaken my resistance.

There were about fourteen of us crowded into a van - seven English and the rest foreigners. Brusquely ordered to stop talking we were squeezed to a floor squat. I was able to note our route over the driver's head and our turn off the Richmond-Kingston road to Ham Common, eventually, driving through the large barbed wire gates to what appeared to be a

3 **FIFTH COLUMN**

ingly triangulated the towers into the wrong field - as could be seen from a more thorough inspection of the map. He had done this during the previous year, when it had not been an offence. Technically, we could still have charged him with being in possession of a marked map, but it would have been unkind.

Our mission had been fruitless. All we had done was to explode the main evidence. The jamming of the radar station was almost certainly accidental, and I doubt whether it originated from the hair-remover. The change of direction of German aircraft in the neighbourhood was most probably due to the fact that we were on the coast of the Wash, which served as a very convenient and recognizable landfall taking the aircraft further in towards any of their Midland targets than would any other landfall that they could have made.

● Professor Jones's latest publication, *Reflections on Intelligence* (Heinemann, £19.50)

IT HAS HAPPENED HERE



by Charlie Watts

British Union D/Leader Westminster St. George's where tank expert and military writer Mag. Gen. J.F.C. 'Boney' Fuller was the Parliamentary Candidate. Charlie was also organiser of the London Cab Trade Group, and after his release from Ham Common, British Union Leader at Ascot Concentration Camp.

He had served in the RAF where he had been a barrack room contemporary of Laurence when serving as AC Shaw.

country mansion. And that is what it had been. The first war had seen it turned into a hospital, and afterwards an Officers Mental Home. Its name was Latchmere House.

Inside we were searched by Sergeant and Captain checked our identities. I was then taken upstairs into a small room, numbered 16, and locked in. Slightly larger than a prison cell it had a camp bed, two army type blankets, a porcelain jerry, a towel, and windsor chair - nothing else, not even a table. Barbed wire covered the window which had wood blocks screwed in the runners to prevent opening more than about two inches.

The window overlooked the back of the house where some old buildings served as stores and quarters for the Guard Company, the most non-descript collection of misfits in khaki I had ever seen, reminding me of "Fred Karno's Army". No two appeared to be from the same unit, and I discovered later there were about 120 of them drawn from over 40 different units. Those I came in contact with were worse than Military Policemen and ex-servicemen will know what this implies.

Whilst looking out at those masquerading as soldiers, I heard someone humming, and guessing it was from the next window I sang out "Who'se That" and a voice called "Domville" so we started to talk.

Firing squad threat

A few minutes later, a Sergeant holding a revolver entered my room and ordered that I was not to have any communication with other inmates. I asked him what the hell he meant, but all I got from him was threats about what would happen if I disobeyed orders. I told him I was wearing three stripes in the RAF when he was still wearing diapers, and that I refused to be intimidated by him or anyone else. His reply was that I'd alter my tune when I was facing a firing squad. I treated this remark with contempt, but must con-

fess that after a few days at Ham Common I was not so sure about it. Once or twice a brick wall and firing squad didn't seem quite so remote.

The Sergeant departed and I sat on the bed and started to whistle. Came a bang on the door and a shout "stop that row". I shouted for the voice to take a running jump at himself and continued my tune.

The door opened and a big hulk of a soldier armed with a revolver entered. He was a coarse bullying type and looked as if he could put a bullet through his own mother without compunction. After some argument I considered perhaps discretion was perhaps the better part of valour, and decided not to give them any chance for the rough stuff.

"You'll get no food tonight"

By this time I was hungry having had only a bully beef sandwich since breakfast, so I banged the door and asked about grub. "You'll get no food tonight" the soldier said, so I reconciled myself to a hungry night and reached in my case for a Penguin thriller.

But not for long for in came the soldier, locked a blackout board over the window, went out switching off the light from outside. It was 9 pm and lights out.

A hungry and sleepless night ended with reveille at 6 am and arrival of the soldier who reversed the previous night's blackout exercise. I was escorted for a wash and told to sweep out the room, after which I waited patiently for breakfast.

"If you get any funny business - shoot the bastards"

At 8 am the sentry outside my door was relieved and I heard much clicking of revolvers and overheard the new sentry receiving instruction in the handling and firing of service revolvers, with the added instruction,

"If you get any funny business - shoot the bastards first and ask questions afterwards".

At last it was "all downstairs for breakfast". I was let out and there lined up were the other occupants who included young Domville, Captain Donovan, Raven Thomson, McKechnie and Sandell. We started to talk but was immediately checked. It was 'not allowed', but as we filed downstairs I managed to ask Donovan in a whisper, "What sort of a dump is this", and he answered - "M15".

So this was the famous Military Intelligence which was supposed to be the world's finest secret service. I was yet to learn that 'Military' was just a term - I never found a military looking M.I. officer in any camp, and most of them were devoid of intelligence.

And so to breakfast - a half-full pint mug of stewed and nearly cold tea, a dessert spoonful of thick porridge on a large plate, and two small thin slices of bread and margarine. This frugal repast was carried to our rooms, we were locked in again and left in solitary state to eat. A request to see the Orderly Officer to lodge a complaint refused - he was "having breakfast" - (Ham and eggs I bet), I gave myself over to reflection.

It was obvious that M15, at Government instigation, had us here for interrogation, and were taking measures to weaken our resistance to get 'confessions' of all the charges being framed against the Movement. The Advisory Committee had failed to find any connecting link between British Union and Nazi Germany for the simple reason there were none. But common sense is not an attribute of our democratic misconceived government, so the comic opera Military Intelligence have been called in to do their stuff.

I had a perfectly clear conscience - they could get nothing out of me that proved in any way that the Leader or British Union was anti-British or intended to aid the enemy, so why should I worry. I determined to take whatever they gave and be damned to them.

We - about a dozen of us, were later taken out for exercise on the lawn, about the size of a tennis court. The house and grounds were surrounded by high double barbed wire fences which were patrolled by sentries with fixed bayonets. Our 'exercise ground' was also encircled by barbed wire,

4 IT HAS HAPPENED HERE

and four additional guards armed with revolvers stuck in belt or holster. Their function was to stop us talking. Two were caught speaking together and were taken and confined to their rooms for the day.

"I was damned hungry but tried to look cheerful"

I was damned hungry but tried to look cheerful. It would never do to let these people believe they were getting me down.

Donovan, as immaculate as ever was sauntering up and down as though he owned the place. Raven Thomson looked a little worried so I brushed past him with a "cheer-up Raven" and received a cheerful grin. I smiled at McKechnie and he grimaced and rubbed his middle. So he also was hungry - or was it his urge for a pint! Jim Battersby looked as if he hadn't a care in the world. Later, at Ascot Concentration Camp he was to become one of my best friends. He was the staunchest and most loyal companion and comrade one could wish for. Detention had a bad effect on him and later turned his brain. He developed Religious mania and was released.

Sometime during that afternoon I was taken to the Adjutant's office, a large airy room on the first floor.



"A cheerful grin" from Raven Thomson [left], and Captain Brian Donovan who "sauntered up and down as though he owned the place".

Captain Donovan married Womens Drum Corps Drum Major Heather Bond four months detained in 1940. Both men at 17 served in the army in World War 1, and in a prison cell for most of Second World War.

Their story is symbolic of the pseudo-morality preached and practised by the British political establishment, for when they were fighting for their country, Home Secretary Herbert Morrison, who kept them imprisoned in Second War, was a conscientious objector working in an apple orchard, and after the latter war, presumably for war service, created Baron Morrison of Lambeth.



'Behind a desk was a large big nosed fellow'

One of Watts's Inquisitors at Ham Common, Lt-Colonel Edward Hinchley-Cooke who, as an unnamed MI5 officer frequently presented prosecution evidence at spy trials. Like the Camp Commandant, he was half-German

Behind a desk was a large big-nosed fellow in civilian clothes who directed me to sit facing him. He offered a cigarette and placed a full packet beside me with a 'help yourself as you wish'.

For the next three hours he plied me with questions. He evidently knew more about me than I knew myself and I concluded that I had been under observation for a long time, years in fact.

My 'Home Defence Movement'

My interrogator kicked off with what I knew about the 'Home Defence Movement'. I at first denied all knowledge but after he produced a book of addresses in my writing I admitted my involvement as he evidently knew all there was to know about that small organisation.

Not wishing to implicate others not yet detained I owned up to all. In fact it was not an organisation at all, but a name given to a propaganda news-sheet issued periodically, produced and distributed by myself. The worst aspect of this was the information imparted to me was that the man who wrote it was of German origin, living here under an assumed name. It was suggested he was a German spy, and was using British Union organisation to further these ends, thus proving conclusively that British Union had hostile associations.

'MI5 lies and bluff'

I was sure this was false but had no way of checking but on my release discovered that the 'German spy' was a corporal in the RAF, which not only vindicated my trust, but showed to what ends of lies and bluff MI5 would stoop to try and cover up the Government's bloomer.

My impression during cross-examination was that they were looking for an underground organisation they thought existed, and the Home Defence Movement seemed to

fit the bill. My interrogator seemed satisfied with my explanation and he dropped the subject.

Next came numerous questions on the 'New British Broadcasting Station' of which I knew nothing and thus could tell nothing. "Why had I visited Thaxted?", a place I had never visited.

Food deliberately withheld

The session eventually finished and it was back to my room and my tea. Two small pieces of bread and margarine and mug of cold tea. This was the last meal of the day and the sum total of the day would not have equalled any one prison meal. These totally inadequate rations stayed exactly the same for the whole

period of Ham Common and in consequence I lost two stone in a fortnight. Complaints were made daily and the excuse was that proper rations had not been sent, and that the guards were getting exactly the same.

This was a lie, as was later admitted by one of the guards who had the decency to say he was disgusted at our treatment. Clearly, it was a deliberate attempt to break down our powers of resistance and so make us confess to all the things which they would like to find us guilty.

The British Union way

I was really hungry all the time and felt myself getting weaker, but I was determined not to let them see this. At exercise, I would march as smartly as I could, round and round the extreme edge of the lawn, head erect and arms swinging, whistling British Union and army marching tunes.

Afterwards, I would just flop out on my bed, thoroughly exhausted.

★ A revolver lay on the desk with the muzzle pointing towards me!

The Ham Common episode of "IT HAS HAPPENED HERE" concluded in next Comrade

Hell Camp Misadventure?

OUR RECORDS are incomplete on the number of Mosley's men interrogated at Ham Common, but according to the recent official *British Intelligence in the Second World War: Security and Counter-Intelligence*, by F.H. Hinsley and C.A.G. Simkins, 27 British subjects received the treatment during 1940. It had been "opened as an interrogation centre for suspect Fifth Columnists in July", but "from early November the place was entirely reserved for captured agents...there were three serious attempts at suicide. One succeeded."

What this apologia omits are the fatal casualties shrouded in some mystery within a short period after release from detention, a phenomenon which begs the question of delayed action health impairment. We know of four such cases. There may be others.

One of the youngest detainees, 19-yr old junior newspaper reporter BASIL GILL of Leeds, on release he took up his duties with RAF (VR), and in May 1943, then a skilled Glider Pilot instructor, he was killed when he crashed after "he failed to observe high tension cables" when piloting a Miles Magister trainer.

Leeds shopkeeper REG WINDSOR was in good health when he was released in 1942. He went to live in County Durham to join his wife who had moved to her home territory during his detention. Only in his thirties, he became mentally disturbed and within a year died.

Son of the well-known firm of Stockport hatters, where he was District Leader, JIM BATTERSBY developed religious mania, and after release, in the latter days of the war, his body was washed up on the beach at Southport after he had jumped overboard into the paddles of a Mersey ferry boat.

PAUL JEEVES, a former Brighton policeman who was thought to have links with MI5, was found dead beside the London/Brighton line. It was 'suggested' that in the blackout he had mistaken the platform side at a station, and been hit by an oncoming train.

Professor Sir Harry Hinsley and Mr. Anthony Simkins were granted unrestricted access to intelligence records without which the "account could have been written."

Perhaps these included the 700-odd personal files of British Union detainees prior to their reported loss or destruction by the Home Office?

● [HMSO Books: £15.95]

IT MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED TO YOU!

THE STORY OF ITS
PUBLICATION AND
THE AUTHOR

by ROY
CUMMINGS

IN DECEMBER 1943, a most remarkable book was published. It was the result of an enquiry conducted by the author, JOHN WYNN, as a result of his experience as a British Political Prisoner, described under its title of **"IT MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED TO YOU"** as an "Investigation of Regulation 18B; its origin; relation to the constitution; operation; with first hand accounts of what suffering has been involved for those who have been arrested and interned under it".

During his detention, John Wynn had kept a diary and secretly gathered signed statements from fellow prisoners. On his release in February 1943, he smuggled them out and were to form the basis of his book.

A World War 1 volunteer, he saw active service on the Western Front in the Royal Flying Corps, being discharged in 1920 with rank of Lieutenant. He joined Mosley in 1938 during British Union's small shop-keeper campaign, but as a successful Midlands businessman had to remain a non-active member.

In late May 1940, his home and office were raided by the police but they went away empty handed. Two weeks later a further search was made, yet despite finding nothing to incriminate him, he was arrested and taken to Liverpool's Walton Jail. He later recalled: "I was an obvious target for arrest. With a private aeroplane, making wireless transmitting sets and driving all over the country day and night in the course of my work".

After a month of deprivation and punitive conditions at Walton, one of the filthiest prisons in the country, he was moved to Ascot, then Ruyton, and finally

Special Investigation Report on 18B.



The author with British Union comrades in Peveril Concentration Camp, Isle of Man in 1942. L to R: TED FOWLER, LARRY ROBINSON, HARRY WHITBREAD, JOHN WYNN, FENN and BILL EATON

ally Peveril, Peel, Isle of Man concentration camps. His sense of injustice was so great that, with the encouragement of his fellow prisoners, he was determined to publish what was being done to loyal Britons in the name of freedom and democracy, and that 'Luxury Feeding of Fascists' and similar stories being fed to the public by the press at that time were a tissue of lies.

On his release, and needing help with his manuscript, he was fortunate to meet solicitor Guy Aldred, a self-confessed anarchist, who was equally opposed to "all forms of persecution and anti-constitutional conduct" and who with those detained he had "practically no political sympathies".

"I DARE TO COME FORWARD" GUY A. ALDRED

IN OUR TRIBUTE to John Wynn, we do not forget the part played by an honourable political opponent, one of the few, of those days.

We salute the memory of anarchist GUY ALDRED for the integrity of his beliefs, and his courage in editing and publishing **"IT MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED TO YOU"**, at some personal risk, and in our respect, we quote from his foreword in the book.

With the individuals now interned, as individuals, I have practically no political sympathies. Were they free I would be their opponent. But they are imprisoned without charge or trial. They are not charged because no charge can be brought against them. Many of them have been soldiers and suffered in the first Great War, which I opposed, as did some members of His Majesty's Government. Under these circumstances, I dare to come forward, not as an apologist of their opinions, but as a defender of their civil rights. If they are traitors, indict them. If they are not traitors, release them. If they cannot be indicted, they ought to be restored to human liberty. In the name of John Hampden, Thomas Paine, Richard Carlile, and the host of my radical forbears, I demand their freedom.

By what right are our liberties denied and government by proscription accepted as the law of Britain?

Aldred edited and arranged the manuscript and John Wynn took it to the Duke of Bedford who had been waging a brave war of words with the establishment in the name of peace. He was sympathetic and introduced Wynn to Glasgow's Strickland Press who agreed to print it.

Although called a book, it was published in tabloid running to forty pages. This was a deliberate decision to circumvent the law that did not allow hard cover books to be exported. John Wynn wished his indictment to have the widest possible distribution, here and abroad. Every M.P., Embassy and other opinion formers received a copy, but such was the feeling for freedom and individual liberty for those born outside this island in wartime Britain, there was little left for

the loss of liberty of its own and little was heard, including a total blackout by the national press.

Its strength however has grown over the years and it is now a classic of facts and argument, high on the list of essential reading for the new generation of academics and historians in this field. The statements of the detainees, who were protected at the time by initials but have now been identified by "Comrade" research, ring out with truth and pathos of the injustice they suffered. They reach out and remind us of that double-face of what they called democracy for which British blood was being shed, and of the like falsehood of reasoning and fact spewed forth by the party political hacks, masquerading as statesmen, that led to the tragedy of the Brother's war, the inevitable decline of British power, the loss of pride and purpose of its people, and its now increasing acceleration, aptly assisted by the politicians - different men but the same breed, into a Third World country.

In post-war years, until his death in 1980, John Wynn continued his campaign for justice by advocating the idea of compensation for wrongful arrest, and in 1974 completed a complimentary manuscript on his life which is yet to be published. Some of the documentation for this was buried in a damp resistant container in the Isle of Man during his detention in 1941 and retrieved 20 years later.

John Wynn spent his post-war years living in a remote farmhouse in North Wales where it was 'open house' for British Union old comrades, a Mosley man to the last.

Thanks to his courage in publishing **"It might have happened to you"** during the war - it could have put him back in jail - the true story of that violation of Magna Carta and dark stain on Habeas Corpus will emerge.

Copies of the 'book' can still be found, but not at the price of £1/- [5p]! The identity of every prisoner mentioned has now been established by "Comrade". Initials only were used at the time to protect them. [Ed]

British Concentration Camps

-AND SOME OF THE VICTIMS



ISLE OF MAN

BU political prisoners at Peel Concentration Camp, Isle of Man, in 1942. L to R: H. Manning; Arthur Swan; Denis Gourdon; M. O'Donnell; G. Chubb; R. Mercer; G. E. Surtees; J. Nichols; Bob Row; Dan Tierney; A. Watts. George Surtees, D/L Lowestoft, was a first war RFC pilot with DFC and Oak Leaves; Denis Gourdon, now living in Australia, was at 20, one of the youngest detained. In the retreat to Dunkirk with RA, he was arrested on return to England. Restrictions imposed on him on release prevented his army return. Bob Row, present editor of "Action" was permitted to join army on release.



YORK

Under the stand at York racecourse in 1941, the 'living' accommodation for Britain's political prisoners at York Concentration Camp.

A watercolour by Rafe Temple Cotton, British Union district Inspector for Devon, and Parliamentary Candidate for Exeter, who died in 1985

8 ← FREEDOM DIED —

services of the Crown, should orders...."

For nine months, before fighting had started in the West, and there was still a hope, Mosley campaigned for a negotiated peace. In May 1940, after the collapse of the Low Countries, he issued a statement concerning a possible invasion of Britain. "In such an event every member of British Union would be at the disposal of the nation. Every one of us would resist the foreign invader with all that is in us. However rotten the existing government, and however much we detested its policies, we would throw ourselves into the effort of a united nation until the foreigner was driven from our soil." Two weeks later he was arrested.

Branded, without a shred of evidence, as potential traitors by politicians and press, and not at liberty to defend that charge, many of those detained had to bear the stigma for the rest of their lives. Most of them are now dead, but before they had hoped to clear their name by the release of their 18B Detention file, classified under the 30-year rule.

But the perpetuating

corruption of fraud and lies in the political system under which we live, 'the best in the world', has now, after nearly 50 years, delivered its ultimate obscenity.

Apart from a handful released to the Public Record Office, and a small number still classified, the remainder of the 18B political prisoner's files, over 700, have been destroyed. Perhaps we should add 'deliberately' as it is not reasonable to suppose that this high proportion was part of the normal executive weeding process.

Indeed, the Home Office admits that they have not even got a record of the names of those whose files are 'missing'.

All that hardship and suffering of innocent men and women, yet historically it never happened!

But it shall not be. In spite of the great cover-up, the truth is beginning to emerge through the diligently researched writings of contemporary academics and historians, and its meaning an example for future generations build a better and nobler Britain.

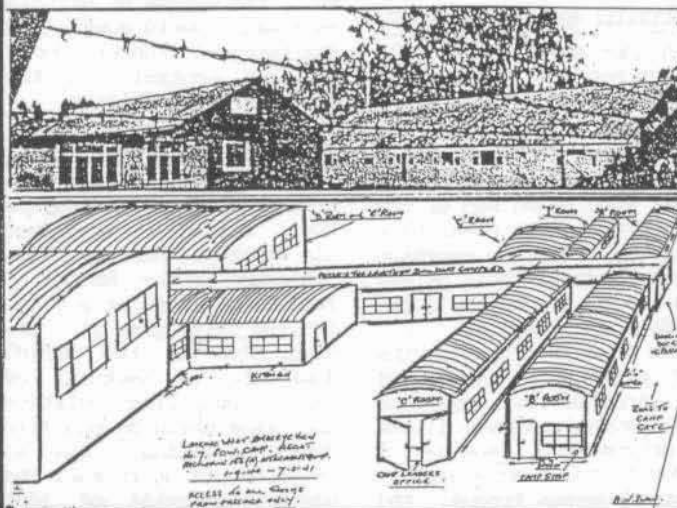
The victims of those days will then peacefully sleep.

For that is all Mosley's men and women ever wanted.

ASCOT

A one-time Army Guard Camp still stands and broods in King's Ride, Ascot, but gone are the patrolling sentries, and the Bren guns turret mounted overlooking Britain's political prisoners in Ascot Concentration Camp in 1940.

The camp has gone - in its place a trading estate. Like the 18B files at the Home Office - destroyed. There are no known photographs, but thanks to ARTHUR SWAN, Camp Leader at Ascot, and British Union Lowestoft District Treasurer, there are some excellent plans, one which we reproduce from his memoirs.



Arthur Swan was arrested on 3 June 1940, and released on 21 March 1942. He saw the insides of Ascot, Huyton, and Peel Concentration Camps, and Walton and Brixton Prisons. "My wife and new born baby were now without an income. The house had to be given up and furniture stored at her mother's flat" he writes on his arrest in his memoirs, and on his release, "As I stood in the street outside Brixton Goal feeling abandoned and assailed with hopes and fears as to what the future might hold, the one dreadful fact was that there was no hope of going back home." A story typical of many who suffered that great injustice.



ISLE OF MAN

Birmingham Women's Organiser and teacher LOUISE IRVINE arrives in the Isle of Man for detention at Port Erin Concentration Camp in 1941. Later she was in Holloway Jail. Husband 'Inkie', District Inspector, was detained 2 years, then 4½ yrs in Army.

7 ← KNAVISH TRICKS

This resulted in the Security Executive advising the transfer of known Communists on secret work to other areas, and Churchill setting up a secret panel of four to decide on the necessary action on cases submitted to it by MI5.

The four members were Security Executive Chairman, Duff Cooper, member Isaac Foot MP, and guess who?: Churchill's pre-war thief of secret papers, Desmond Morton, and his wartime prodigy, Alf Wall.

Such were the men given overriding power in Churchill's War. A thief to catch a thief - a Red to watch the Reds - the Burgess's and the Blunts in the traitor-ridden security services, and secret information continued to travel to Stalin by the sackfull.

They could however mark up a credit. They had put away those dangerous patriots, the Mosley men, in concentration camps.

1 ← EMERGING TRUTH

alarming absence of common humanity. Some of the victims were mere infants, others as old as seventy. Many of the British detainees had fought in the Great War (some even in the Boer War), their scars bearing testament to their loyalty to King and country. Bonds of love were torn asunder, and families shattered, sometimes irrevocably. Some of those detained were disabled before their ordeal; many became so in mind and or body as a result of the privations inflicted upon them. Some received premature release through death.....'

D.J.Lewis: Illusions of Grandeur: Manchester University Press: 1987

1 FREEDOM DIED

young Mosley men 20-yr old Pte. 'Nipper' Ayres, of Limehouse, 5th. Btn. Green Howards, and 21 yr-old Pte. Robert Irvine of Shoreditch, 1/5Bn. Queen's Royal Regt., killed in action in the fighting retreat to Dunkirk in Churchill's War, the war they had earlier strived to prevent.

Britain saved by RAF

In that early summer, 'the finest hour' of the RAF was still to come. They alone deserve that accolade - those fine young men who died and paid out death to other fine young men of the Luftwaffe, in the clear blue skies above southern England, until their grievous losses forced the Luftwaffe to call enough.

But just in time, for the RAF also was almost bled dry. Another few days and there would have been little to prevent the landing of several thousand battle-trained German troops. And once ashore, with vast numbers of our army still only partially trained, and very little armaments in the country after the debacle in France, expert opinion believes the German army would have been investing London within weeks, enforcing a British capitulation.

Victory for the RAF had another result. It let the Government, and indeed the whole political system off the hook, for who was responsible for the Germans being at the French channel ports?

Poland: act of madness

It was a British government that had declared war on Germany, in defence they said, of Poland, a country which then it was logistically impossible to assist. The army, organised only for the protection of Britain's world wide vital interest of British Empire, was thrown into mainland Europe for what can only have been, if the Germans had not struck with modern techniques of warfare, a long war of attrition, 1914-18 style, and another million British dead.

In the far East, intelligence reports had warned of Japan's aspirations towards our Eastern empire, and that she had the military capability to further those interests if Britain got involved in a European war, and that the probability was that she would do so.

With an economy and in-

dustrial base that, like its political party system, considerably deteriorated since World War 1, hardly strong enough as the base for maintenance of our world-wide interests, it was a supreme act of madness, not even a gamble for high stakes, to give that worthless guarantee to Poland with the inevitability of European war involvement, for whatever the final result, the demise of Britain as a major world power, its destiny no longer under its own control, was the ultimate inevitability.

To his credit, only Chamberlain had the clarity of vision of the true statesman, but in the end the forces arraigned him destroyed him. By 1939, statesmen in the Mother of Parliaments were at a premium, the party game in 'the best club in the world', dominant. A festival of parish pump-like politics and trade union branch-like decision making, and as often devoid of reason. The old British skill of long term objectivity of thought in relation to our vital interests had been subdued by party politics, the participants strutting around their private little empire at Westminster, their pseudo-morality having little relativity to the real truths of the world outside.

These were the guilty men who in that early summer of 1940, had brought Great Britain down to the point of capitulation. Guilty men, saved by the bravery and patriotism of 'the few', young men who died before their time for the sins of the politicians.

Exit Magna Carta

But in that early summer, before the RAF young men's chapter of glory, had come the politicians' finest hour. Their backs to their wall of panic, they produced a scapegoat, Mosley's British Union, and using their wartime legislative and executive power created a new executive law giving power to the Home Secretary to arrest and detain, those British citizens who he had 'reasonable cause to believe', certain specified facts, or that a person had done certain specified things. As it was later determined, the Home Secretary could not be questioned on his 'reasonable cause', even in the highest court in the land, or in Parliament, making him virtually a dictator. And seeing that

generally his 'judgement' was based on names supplied by MI5, without accompanying evidence, he would have been hard put to supply a 'reasonable cause'. A learned contemporary has suggested the the Home Secretary at the time, Sir John Anderson, had probably 'locked up more of his fellow citizens without charge or trial than anyone since Oliver Cromwell.'

As for MI5, it is now suspected that it had been penetrated by Soviet agents, and that it used for its intelligence gathering a mixed bunch of sexual deviationists and society misfits, prepared to lie their heads off if it moved their own peculiar motivation.

In spite of this, the Home Secretary had to report to the War Cabinet on May 22, 'that MI5 had been unable to produce any evidence that either the leaders of the British Union or the organisation itself had anything to do with Fifth Column activity'.

Enter Police State

Which seems clear enough, so what was the next move of the War Cabinet? Immediately amend Emergency Regulation 18B by Order in Council, sign orders for the detention of Mosley and 33 of the Movement's officers who were arrested the next day.

The police state had arrived in Britain, a Britain which they told us was committed to the defence of freedom and the rule of law.

During the next few weeks, following a knock at the door, a visit to their work place, in the street, in military establishments, over 700 men and women of British Union were taken from their wives, husbands, mothers and children, and locked away in prisons and concentration camps, some for almost the duration of the war.

They had broken no laws, their only 'crime' - membership of British Union, a lawful political party. That for years before the war had campaigned for an armed Britain, strong enough to defend herself and Empire against any potential enemy, at a time when the Labour Party was, on the one hand, campaigning to get a war going with Germany - 'Smash Hitler Now' - or any other state they disliked, and on the other hand, continually opposing rearmament proposals in the House of Commons, and such extra frivolities as refusing halls to Army

and NTC Cadet Forces to show their opposition to 'militarism', where Labour controlled the local Council.

And these were the men: now in Government, some who had opposed and dodged the First War, now in the forefront of putting away British citizens, one-third of them veterans of that holocaust which they, the oppressors, had shirked.

But the Tories are not guilt-free of this blot on a page of British history, for in their eternal dishonour they acquiesced in that frame-up of patriotic and loyal British citizens.

For frame-up it was, its real purpose to silence the voice of Mosley and British Union in its lawful opposition to the war, a position which in previous wars in England's past had been regarded as proper and patriotic for those who believed it mistaken.

If the Government had wished to crush dissent for this particular war, they could have banned all such voices by Parliamentary action. British Union would have obeyed the law and ceased to function. But they did not have the nerve or the gall. A country at war 'for Freedom and Democracy' officially silencing those who oppose it. It would not have gone down well with world opinion, particularly with America, who Churchill was trying to inveigle into the War.

'Never Again' - 1914/18

British Union's attitude to war had always been clear and honest. Its whole ethos was born out of the comradeship of self-sacrifice of the first war front-line soldier and the aftermath of society's 'Never Again'. We should fight only in defence of Britain and the Empire, and not involve ourselves in foreign quarrels. 'Britons Fight for Britons only'.

It opposed the declaration of the last war because, in Mosley's words: "it risked three consequences: the disaster of defeat, the triumph of communism, the loss of the British Empire despite victory. The only power which could in no circumstances benefit from that war was Great Britain."

At the beginning of the war, Mosley's instructions to members was "to do nothing to injure our country, or to help any other power." They should "do what the law requires of them" and those in "the forces or

The Dirty Deal

IF WE HAD NOT forced Churchill to imprison Mosley, who knows what he would have achieved. He was getting too dangerous - people were beginning to listen to him and agree. He might have forced a quick end to the war and become the alternative to capitalism. He is now discredited. But do not rely on it. I assure you, Mosley is a man who is never finished, and I must remind you of the change of circumstances after the last war for those members of our party who were previously very unpopular for opposing the war."

The speaker was Aneurin Bevan at a Labour Party at the Savoy Hotel in July 1945, the day after the election results - held up for three weeks for the Forces vote - had swept Labour to power.

The Left's blue-eyed boy at that time, Nye Bevan spent the evening holding court to an ever-changing clique of wine-swilling idolisers - party workers, MPs, old and new, ostentatious in their victory, and bearing little resemblance to the party of Keir Hardy.

Bevan's reply to a questioner was, as far as I know, the first authoritative statement from a major Labour source of their alleged part in Mosley's imprisonment.

It had been raised by Hugh Ross-Williamson, author and playwright, and prominent member of the party in letters to Truth in July 1942. His contention was that at the Labour Party Conference at Bournemouth in 1940, which ended four days before the Government's Amendment to Regulation 18B which made possible Mosley's arrest, the general opinion was that some Labour leaders had made his imprisonment a condition of their entering the Government.

It was indeed Labour's Conference that had effectively gave Churchill the power for which he had so long schemed and intrigued. A telephone call from the Labour Executive at Bournemouth to Downing Street two weeks earlier had informed Chamberlain of their refusal to serve under him in a new coalition government, forcing his resignation.

Was this nefarious bargain ever struck, or putting another way, did Churchill surrender to Labour's blackmail? Tory

Second Verse 'God Save The King'

'Confound their politics, Frustrate their knavish tricks'

BY JOHN CHRISTIAN

MP for Wood Green Beverley Baxter thought it was. Two years after the war he told me it "was part of the price that had to be paid for the participation of Labour in 'united Government'".

Not a whisper of the deal has been found in the papers of any likely participant. No hint of Labour's blackmail in Churchill's memoirs, but he wouldn't would he? We know now from other sources, and even heavily weeded official papers, that he left out much historical data, that which would discredit him, and surrender to blackmail surely would.

For blackmail it was, and it had only just begun.

The Reckoning

WHEN CHURCHILL exchanged the office of First Lord of the Admiralty for that of Prime Minister of Great Britain on that day in May 1940, he was to describe it in his memoirs as one which "all my past life had been in preparation for this hour...".

His problems were enormous. There was the Norway fiasco for "the man who let the Germans into Norway" as described by Beaverbrook, and now, overnight, Germany had unleashed its invasion of the Low Countries.

Warnings of the German attack in intelligence reports fed to the Admiralty had left Churchill untroubled. He was too involved in political intrigues to ensure that his long sought for prize was not to slip from his grasp.

The result was that there was now hardly any naval forces left for the Channel. They were all involved in his 'wildcat adventure up to Narvik' as put by a naval contemporary.

But once again, the crisis events in Europe were secondary. His position had to be consolidated, and for the first few days he fired those he regarded as his enemies, rewarded his friends, including those who for years had supplied him illegally with secret intelligence files, and wrangled with his Labour

protagonists, now applying pressure on policies and posts in the new 'united Government'.

The result was a number of Government appointments that appeared to have been made from Labour pressure, or those who Churchill believed would not oppose him.

One of the most bizarre and still unexplained appointments of the war was that of A.M. Wall to the Home Defence (Security) Executive, otherwise known as the Swinton Committee.

Set up three days after Mosley's arrest, its function was 'to consider all questions relating to defence against the Fifth Column, and to initiate action through the appropriate departments'. In practice it decided who should be arrested, and who should stay imprisoned, the function which MPs believed to be of the Advisory Committee, a powerless animal set up as a sop to the liberal conscience.

The Swinton Committee was so powerful and secret that questions about it could not be raised in Parliament without the Prime Minister's permission. Present at the first meeting was Churchill's 'boy', Desmond Morton, he who for several years before the war had filched secret documents for Churchill to get copied at Chartwell.

Deputy to the Committee's Chairman, ex-Tory Minister Lord Swinton, was the shadowy Sir Joseph Ball, a former head of the Conservative's research department who had been recruited into MI5 in the 1920s, and ever retained the link. He was suspected of being associated with the forging of the 'Zinoviev letter', the 'dirty trick' that did much to bring down the first Labour Government. He had been an advisor to Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain, and because of his MI5 contacts was always on call for surveillance of important persons, or other secret activity required by the executive. And although regarded to be 'of the right', he was a friend of the homosexual Soviet spy Guy Burgess, later to defect to Moscow, and it was during this period that Ball

recruited Burgess for MI5!

It was into this powerful Wall was co-opted two weeks after its inception at the instigation of Churchill, a 'trade unionist', to give the Committee 'political balance'.

But Wall was a life-long Communist, a candidate for the Party at Streatham in 1924, and secretary of the Communist-dominated London Trades Council for 12 years until 1938. In 1935 he was the joint author, with Herbert Morrison, Secretary of the London Labour Party, of a manifesto 'The Labour Movement and Fascism' and a year later we find him in a deputation at the Home Office requesting that British Union's East London march be prohibited.

Churchill's appointment becomes even more incomprehensible when one considers that at this time, Stalin was helping Germany with war materials, and was indeed shortly to telegraph Hitler congratulations on his victory in the West, and the British Communist Party, obeying their master's voice, doing all they could to sabotage the war effort.

We also learn now from the recently published official history Security and Counter-Intelligence by Hinsley and Simkins, who had been given free access to official documents, that Wall was given the chairmanship of its Committee on Communism which became known as the Wall Committee, its main function to block Communists, now that they were supporting the war effort after Russia had become our 'glorious Ally', in their attempts to use the Party's production campaign as a means of undermining Trade Union leadership and promoting workers control.

In 1943 MI5 drew attention to the Communist Party's secret interviewing room in London under cover of the Workers' Musical Association, were it received a considerable amount of secret information from members of the armed forces, civil service and industry.

After the sentence of D.P. Springhall, National Organiser of the Communist Party to several years penal servitude for sending secret information to the Soviet Union, which he had received from a member of a secret Communist Party group in the Air Ministry, and an army officer, MI5 again expressed its concern. (It was evidently unaware then of Burgess and Blunt, later to be proved traitors, and Roger Hollis and Graham Mitchell, the latter in charge of British Union surveillance, both later to be Soviet 'mole' suspects, in its own backyard.)

CONGRATULATIONS

★ OLD COMRADE ★

IN offering our congratulations to Lady Mosley on her 80th Birthday on June 17, we use the picture published at the time of her marriage to our Leader, when, in reference to his outstanding qualities, many a young Blackshirt was heard to express the view, "Lucky OM - he's got everything, and now Diana too"!

And June 1990 will echo other memories for Lady Mosley for fifty years ago, shortly after Max was born, she was taken an incarcerated in Holloway Jail with other women political prisoners for nearly four years.

Most of the British Union women met her there for the first time. We will let Louise Irvine, featured elsewhere in this issue take up the story.

"It was the greatest privilege to be with her. Her courage and behaviour were marvelous. She was kind enough to walk with me often when we were on exercise in the prison yard. She gave me whole new vistas of literature and music etc. Even inside, and with all the pressures that she was under, her



sense of humour and fun were tremendous. All the wardresses were won over by her natural behaviour and charm."

As our Leader's lady, some might feel that our greetings to mark this occasion should be

'THE BALLAD OF HOLLOWAY GAOL'

Within those walls
confined at night
I often heard them cry
Although my woes were
far more light
My own eyes were
not dry,
It seemed that justice
came that way
And haughtily passed by.

Hellie Driver

Womens District Leader,
Nelson & Colne, one of Lady
Mosley's contemporaries in
Holloway.

on our leading page, and they would be right.

But as Diana Mosley, her place we feel is on the page devoted to old comrades, for she also has a special place in our hearts.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

TOMMY HASTINGS

No.7 (Pathfinder) Sqdn. RAF:
Missing Essen, 31 March 1943
[OUR BLACKSHIRT DEAD]
'Comrade' No.22

From an old comrade:

Soon after outbreak of WW2, Tommy gifted me a book of Rudyard Kipling's poems and in the back fly-leaves he had written five further poems. Poems which must have had a particular meaning to him, and expressed what he too must felt but, being a quiet man, never expressed vocally. Having been one of the small party from 'Geordieland' able to attend the historic Earl's Court Meeting, perhaps he wanted me to know how he too had been effected by Mosley's oratory. I would like to think so. It is from these added poems I have taken the following epitaph:-

"You who stoop and clossely
peer,
Curious to see what's written
here,
And see the light of English
skies
Silver the glass and bless
your eyes,
Think of the England Old &
Green
You wonder and are happy on.
And if the hour of perils
come,
Find in thine own heart that
Drum"

Robert Richard: Northumberland

THE SPIRIT LIVES

I was delighted to see the name of David Pritchard listed among those who 'still march in spirit with us' [April/May 'Comrade']. I knew David well.

He was killed at Easter, 1935 in a motor-cycle accident near Windsor. Only two days earlier I had gone out as a pillion-passenger on his newly-bought second-hand bike, speeding (helmetless, of course) along the Embankment.

He was a great fighter for the Cause, which he believed would eventually triumph. No week-end member of the Movement he, but a full-time, 24-hour-a-day activist, and a good comrade, too. It was a sad day when the BUF flag was lowered to half-mast on the square tower of 33 King's Road and the traffic halted for the cortege to Brompton cemetery where many of us paid homage in a farewell worthy of the high ideals of our Movement.

It is good that we remember our dead comrades whose spirits still live to inspire us.

Let us remember them, for they are the link with our nations history.

John Yeowell London

* And from our files, a photograph to accompany John's memories. [Ed]



A BLACKSHIRT GUARD OF HONOUR pays homage to their brother Blackshirt DAVID PRITCHARD at Brompton Cemetery in 1935

OLD COMRADES



In Memoriam

"Hark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages.
Britain listens and rejoices,
Caring on Tradition's pages...."

BAINES, Derek Talbot: BUF "I" Squad:
Near Bognor Summer 1981

BENNETT, Charles: former Mayor of
Bethnal Green: Ch. BG British
Legion: N/E BG Br. British Union
June 1939

BOUMAN, William James: Plating,
Manchester Br. Union July 1939

BROWN, Charles: D/Leader Wavertree,
Liverpool Br. Union: 188 Political
UN Org. Salford. June 1962

CLARKE, Bill: Union/M treasurer NW
London 1970-74: ex-Royal Marine
Commandos. June 1989

CLARKE, Pat: Grantham Br. Union:
June 1937

CRABTREE, Bill: Bury, Lancs. Br. Union:
Union Movement July 1975

DONITY, John: Br. Union Parl. Candidate
Evesham: Un/M: Worcestershire Nat.
Farmers Union. At 93 July 1978

DYMOCK, The Rev. G.H.: Vicar St. Bedes
Bristol: 188 Political Prisoner:
July 1956

GOUGH, Joseph 'Bowie': Birmingham Br.
Union Drum Corps: 188 Political
Prisoner after Army at Dunkirk:
July 1963

GOUGH, Victor: son of 'Bowie': 188
Political Prisoner then RAF.
27 June 1975

HAWCOCK, Alan: Sussex: Croydon Br.
Union July 1989

HURSON, Cmdr. C.E.: OBE, RD, RNR Rtd:
D/Ldr. Bognor Br. Union: 188 Political
Prisoner: Camp Leader Huyton
Concentration Camp. June 1948

MOSLEY, Maud Lady: Loyal supporter
and mother of OM: Head of Womens
BUF in early days. 20 June 1948

NICHOLLS, Tommy: S/London Br. Union:
June 1981

SCOTT, George: D/Ld. Richmond, Surrey
Br. Union: 188 Political Prisoner:
28 July 1978

SHELMERDINE, Philip: Agent for BU
candidate Middleton & Prestwich
Bye-Election 1940: 188 Political
Prisoner: a victim of M15s Camp
020 interrogation centre. Later
Father Sheldermine. 14 July 1987

TAYLOR, Harry: Shoreditch W/Movement:
husband of Vicky. July 1961

TEMPLE COTTON, Rafe: Br. Union Parl.
Candidate Exeter and National
Inspector, Devon: 188 Political
Prisoner. 18 June 1985

THOMPSON, Palmer: Aylesbury Br. Union:
188 political Prisoner from which
he died in Walton Jail. June 1940

TRESADEN, George: Early Union Move-
ment supporter, East London:
brother of 'Uncle' Arthur
Tressaden: At 93. 3 June 1989

VERALL, Stan: Croydon: Br. Union, RAF
and Union Movement. June 1989

WAINWRIGHT, William: Head of Wain-
wright Brush Factories Bow, East
London: father of H.S. Wainwright:
At 87. 30 June 1955

MARRETT, Mrs.: Shoreditch Br. Union:
Candidate Local election.
June 1938

"Patriots; your cry is heeded!
Heroes; death was not in vain!
We to your place have succeeded,
Britain shall be great again!"

Still in spirit with us.

OBITUARY

HARRY JONES

IT IS with very deep regret we report the death in February of HARRY JONES, of Shoreditch, for many years one of the most active members of Union Movement.

A young member of British Union, he served in the Army in the War, first with the E/Yorks. Regt. and later was attached to US Army, serving from France to Germany in the Second Front.

Demobbed in 1945, he joined UM at its birth, and stood as a candidate in East London elections in 1949.

He retired from activity in latter years, but was reunited with old comrades at FOM functions shortly before his death.

So long, Barry.

FRIENDS of O.M.

MANCHESTER

AFTERNOON BUFFET

Sunday

September 16 1990

COMRADE

NEWSLETTER OF FRIENDS OF O.M.

NO.25 AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 1990



"The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow"

4 years in prison-NO offence-NO charge-NO trial-NO PARDON

JUSTICE DENIED TO DYING BLACKSHIRT



John Patten

By JOHN CHRISTIAN

'WHAT CHANCE THEN, do I have? I am now nearing the end of my days and time for me is short. I am a chair-bound invalid but would make the effort to see you...I have nothing to hide and am proud of my behaviour. I remain true to my beliefs' wrote old Blackshirt JOHN CHARNLEY in the last year of his life to his MP Ronald Fearn, requesting his assistance in 'clearing my name of any suggestion of potential traitorous behaviour.'

John Charnley was imprisoned without charge or trial for nearly four years in the last war under the infamous 18B Emergency Defence Regulations, and had been told that his file containing the record of his detention, and his tribunal hearing papers, had been destroyed. His imprisonment had been erased from the record, and had effectively never happened.

His MP referred the case to Home Office Minister JOHN PATTEN, who confirmed the file had been destroyed, adding "I am unable to take this matter any further."

Charnley, a fighter to the end, refused to 'go away', and in a further letter suggested that if the Americans could legislate to pardon the Japanese-Americans detained in the War, then surely, similar retrospective justice could be obtained in the British Parliament for Britain's detainees, and that the Petition of Human Rights signed by Charles I in 1628 - a breach which contributed to his condemnation and execution - could be used advantageously for this purpose.

In a classic of democratic political executive jargon,

John Patten replied that "it would seem that whilst (sic) Mr. Charnley was detained under the law as it then stood, but not convicted of any offence there is, therefore, no offence which can be pardoned."

It was August 1988. Four months later John Charnley was dead. His brave fight for nearly 800 maligned patriots of British Union, the majority now dead, is revealed in his autobiography "Blackshirts and Roses", [Brookings Publications, £12.95], completed only days before his death, and published as we go to press.

**2 BELEAGUERED
BUT UNBROKEN**

CHARLIE WATTS concludes his story of his treatment at Camp 020 in 1940.

OUR BLACKSHIRT DEAD

FRED YEATMAN

IT WAS the eighth day of the Battle of Arnhem, and 28-year old Glider Pilot, Staff Sergeant FRED YEATMAN was fighting with the 1st Wing, Glider Pilot Regiment, who were trained fighting troops, in the perimeter defences in the village of Oosterbeek, west of Arnhem. Their task was to hold until the 2nd Army arrived.

They were under incessant mortar attack, and the War Diary of Reserve Bn.16, SS Panzer Grenadiers reported firing all heavy weapons into the pocket, but their subsequent attack repulsed. Glider Pilot Regiment's War Diary recorded heavy fighting in all sections. During that night, Fred Yeatman was killed.

6

JUSTICE- but not for the British

IT HAS been said that Home Office Minister JOHN PATTEN is of Prime Minister material. He certainly seems to have that ability in use of words to evade inconvenient questions, of seeing only that he wishes to see, and in the double standard qualification often a requirement of successful Prime Ministers.

This was clearly shown earlier this year when in launching a 'campaign to quell anxiety and reassure the public', he suggested, as put by the Daily Mail, that violence on the streets was 'just a myth.'

A month later, new figures showed the biggest rise in crime ever recorded and Mr. Patten was saying: 'We all have to re-assess our attitude to crime.' People should take better care of their property, and 'if they don't, insurance companies should encourage them.'

Which was most comforting for all those between 5 and 90 who were likely to be victims of the 8 per cent increase in sex offences, or the 10 per cent increase in violent assaults.

The Minister's vision obviously does not extend to the deserted evening streets of our capital city, its older citizens

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

"What though we ourselves
are smitten,
This, our faith can never
die!"

The First Official
Casualties of World War 2.

BROCKING, G.T., Age 22,
and

DAY, K.G., 20: RAF No.9
Sqn: members of British
Union: Aircraftman vol-
unteer air gunners
killed in action, L4275
Wellington bombing Ger-
man Fleet, Brunsbittel,
Keil Canal, September 4,
1939.

Brocking is remembered
on Air Force Memorial,
Rannymede. Day now lies
at Becklingen War
Cemetery, Germany.

YEATMAN, F.J., St/Sgt:
Glider Pilot Regt., Army
Air Corps, and Exeter
British Union. Killed in
action, ARNHEM, 24/25
September 1944: He lies
in Arnhem Oosterbeek War
Cemetery, Netherlands.

BRUNING, Clement:
British Union speaker,
Admin. Officer and Parl.
Candidate, Wood Green:
Age 31, on 17 August 1942,
a civilian in German
Concentration Camp when
brother GUY was in Brit-
ish Concentration Camp.
He lies in Cracow (Rakow-
icki) Commonwealth Plot
Poland

forced to stay indoors as
their only defence against
risk of violence in the
streets, the quality of
life left to them only
their warm memories of the
Britain that was.

Mr. Patten's disinterest
in obtaining justice for

6

"I told him I was a patriotic British subject, and that I was surprised and horrified that such treatment was being given to political prisoners, many who had served their time in the Armed Forces. They could get on with their terror methods until Hell freezes before breaking me down?"

BELEAGUERED BUT UNBROKEN



One-time British Union District Leader Westminster St. George's **CHARLIE WATTS** concludes his story of his treatment in MI5's secret terror interrogation centre in 1940, Latchmere House, Ham Common, edited from his unpublished memoirs, "It Has Happened Here"

NOTHING further happened until two nights later. My light had been turned off and I had just got off to sleep when I was rudely awakened by the entry of the Sergeant.

"Come on, get up and dress, you're wanted". I let him have the usual mouthful but could do nothing but comply with the order. I followed him downstairs, along dark passages, and upstairs to the top of the house. It seemed a strange procedure at that late hour, so I remarked: "What's at the end of this - your promised firing squad?" He growled: "You'll soon find out!"

I was shown into a small room and ordered to sit down. I say ordered and not invited as this interview was totally different from the last when politeness was the order of the day. A bright spotlight was directed on to my face so that I could barely see the men who sat back in the shadow; in fact I never did get a good view of them. A revolver lay on the desk with the muzzle pointing towards me.

"Shot while trying to escape?"

Then the interrogation. All the old questions again about the New British Broadcasting Station, Mosley's visits to Germany, arms trafficking, and how much was I paid for my part in the Movement. They just wouldn't believe that

all my work was voluntary and that it cost me money to belong to the organisation. They brought up the old chestnut about foreign money and reminded me of the penalties of spying, and as good as accused me of espionage on behalf of the Germans. British Union was alluded to as the British Nazi part, and my persecutors were hostile to such an extent that the temptation was there to seize the revolver and shoot my way out, one to which I did not succumb. "Shot while trying to escape" is an old custom of getting rid of political prisoners, though not yet started in this country. I had no wish to be the first so I tried another tack - ridicule.

"Questions just snarled at me"

I told them they had seen too many gangster films, and read too many G-men magazines. They did not like this one bit and their hostility grew until questions were just snarled at me. And I was rapidly losing my temper, and when the question "and what do you think of British Union now?" was sneered at me, as if to say "now they have proved to be traitors, what is your opinion?", I jumped out of my chair, raised my hand in our salute and shouted "HAIL MOSLEY, AND F— 'EM ALL!"

There was dead silence for a considerable time until at last a voice said "Well, I

think that will be all for tonight", and I replied: "I should bloody well think so too at this time of night".

Back in my room after that ordeal I wanted to be sick, but my stomach was too empty. I couldn't sleep so I just lay and tried to think things out.

Do they honestly believe that British Union was a German spy organisation. Has the error of detention been realised and to cover up trying to terrorise us into 'confessing' something we had not done, or are they frightened that British Union may at last influence the people to demand a negotiated peace of the war that should never have started, and are thus determined to smash the Movement and our spirit? These are just a few of the questions I tried to answer, and I decided the latter was nearer to the truth than any.

I'd had two different kinds of interrogation, the first polite, the second intimidating, but I was to get a third, kind and sickly sympathetic.

A few days after the night dogfight, a benevolent looking old gentleman, disguised as an officer, was locked in my room with me. He said he sympathised with my unhappy lot, and would prefer to have communists there instead; that he once nearly joined British Union, and that he would do all he could to help me.

Not being born yesterday, it was obvious what they hoped

to achieve. That I open my heart to this display of sympathy and go down on my belly and crawl out.

"You won't break me"

I told him I was a patriotic British subject and that I was surprised and horrified that such treatment was being given to political prisoners, many who had served their time in the Armed Forces. They could go on with their terror methods until Hell freezes before breaking me down, and there was nothing to be got out of me anyway. After a lot of blustering he departed and I had no more questioning at Ham Common.

Days of utter miserable loneliness, hunger and uncertainty followed. One day Raven Thomson did not appear for exercise, then Donovan disappeared. I afterwards discovered that fellows were shuffled about from one part of the house to another, with different parties at exercise at different times. As we had nothing else to do but think, one wondered what was happening. All part of the terror.

Otherwise the routine remained the same. The same inadequate meals producing such soul destroying hunger and misery. The same short exercise periods when one had to adopt an attitude of cheerfulness and defiance, with attempts at whispered conversation. The long hours of loneliness, locked up for 23 hours every day in a small room with nothing to smoke and usually nothing to read. Solitary confinement in prison is bad enough, but here many times worse.

Hidden microphones?

One morning I was told that I could have an hour of 'Association' and was taken to a room at the far end of the house and locked in with Vaughan-Henry who I knew in the early days of the Movement.

I was immediately suspicious and thought less said the better. As he was a brilliant talker there was no problem.

He said he had been a POW in Germany in the last war, and told of some of his escaping experiences. I said he should utilise this knowledge in getting out of Ham Common. He told me to be careful as there was bound to be a microphone up the chimney in every room.

On the hour I was taken back to my room. This was the only time I was permitted to speak to a fellow detainee at Ham Common.

Washing was a problem as soap was not issued. Water for bathing was not avail-

Mosley's Blackshirt political prisoners: Let this be their Memoriam

He was an ardent supporter of British Union although at the same time, pro-British from point of view of desiring Britain win the war...WATTS can be considered loyal, but his unwavering devotion to the Union and his apparent power of attracting other people to share his views, make it difficult to suppose that his release, even on conditions, would be devoid of risk to our national security....He is much too plausible for safety PRO H045/25702

CHARLIE WATTS died in 1971 and did not see the appraisal of him by the Government's Advisory Board when they rejected his appeal for release from detention a year after his experience at Camp 020, Ham Common.

He would have been intensely proud. It appears in his 18B file at the Public Record Office, just one of a mere handful of British Union political prisoners personal files that slipped through the net, surviving the destruction, or otherwise 'taken care of', of 700-odd of his comrades personal files by the Home Office and MI5.

These few lines reveal the real reason for their incarceration in prisons and concentration camps, and answer the big lie that Mosley's men were potential traitors, a falsehood originated by the wartime politicians who swept away Magna Carta, and who will live in history for their creation of the British political prisoner.

For as Mosley's men always knew, and can now be seen by all, it was to silence the voice of dissent that they were put away. That age-old liberty permitted under the law, a value for which they claimed we were at war.

There were many Charlie Watts's. Let the words of that report signal their story to posterity, and be his and their Memoriam, and an inspiration to strive, and to attain, their high standard of honour, loyalty and courage.

History of the Second World War

British Intelligence in the Second World War

Volume 4

F.H. Hinsley
CAG Simkins



A unique volume say the authors. Written with unrestricted access to intelligence records.

HELL CAMP 020

WE REPORTED in the last issue of COMRADE, on MI5s wartime interrogation centre at Ham Common, and in

this issue we conclude the story of CHARLIE WATTS, who experienced the methods

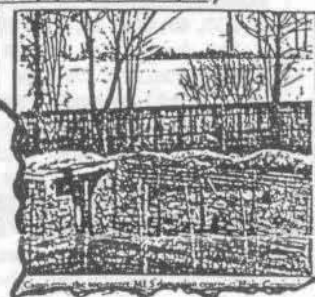
used on British Union political prisoners, as guinea-pigs in MI5s experimental psychological torture.

We print here the 'rules of interrogation' from the recently published official history, developed for use on enemy agents out of the experiments on British patriots.

Without comment. Admission that 020 existed is enough.

WHO THIS DISGRACEFUL DEN OF DEQUITY, DEGRADATION, DISPRIVITY, and DEATH, came selected members of British Union, hauled in from prisons where they had been incarcerated without charges preferred against them. Five born Britons who had not broken any laws, to be used, as it is now clear, as guinea-pigs in the experiments of techniques of psychological torture by MI5.

THE HELL OF HAM COMMON



June/July COMRADE

2-IT HAS HAPPENED HERE

able until the very day I left, but as I was preparing to avail myself of that opportunity I was told I was going away, and within five minutes, with a Sergeant and two soldiers escort, I was on my way to Ascot Concentration Camp after the worst two weeks of my life.

I know not who controls MI5, and don't expect anyone will admit, or take responsibility for our treatment at their hands.

Whoever it is he must be a much travelled man as he has evidently made a close study of the Soviet OGPU, the American Gangster, the German Gestapo and sundry other methods. A few ideas from the books of Edgar Wallace thrown in and the result was Latchmere House, Ham Common.

● Compton Domville, son of Admiral Sir Barry Domville, former Director Naval Intelligence, also detained with Lady Domville, another son killed in action 1941: Captain Brian Donovan, British Union Asst. Dir/Gen: Raven Thomson, BU Dir. of Policy and Ed. of "Action": Hector McKechnie, BU Nat. Adm. Officer: E.S. Sandell, BU HQ: Jim Batteraby, D/Leader Stockport: Dr. Vaughan-Henry, Symphony Orch. conductor.

that this was so the alien would be removed to Camp 020 for interrogation.

(ii) Camp 020

Camp 020, set up in 1940, and the reserve Camp 020R which opened in January 1945, were run as military establishments. The intelligence staff provided by MI5 were all commissioned and wore uniform, while the administrative staff, the warders and the perimeter guard were soldiers. But apart from providing the administrative staff and guard force, and being answerable if there was an escape,* the War Office had no responsibility for the camps which came wholly under the Home Secretary. The Home Office exercised a right of inspection and the Camps were visited by the successive chairmen of the Security Executive which, in Petrie's words, had been 'so largely... instrumental in bringing Camp 020 into existence'.

The administration of Camp 020 as a military establishment was deliberately designed to produce an impression of efficiency and above all of rigid discipline. A prisoner destined for Camp 020 was collected by an escort commanded by an officer and brought to the Camp in handcuffs. On arrival he was stripped, given a body search, dressed in prison clothes and placed in solitary confinement. The next stage was his formal admission to the Camp; brief particulars were taken, his weight, height and physical particulars were recorded and he was given a medical examination, including a dental inspection after it was discovered that material for secret writing was sometimes concealed in hollow teeth. Throughout this procedure, which was brief and businesslike but gave an indication of the prisoner's demeanour and the language in which he might be interrogated, officers and warders (picked men from the guard company) dealing with the prisoner were under instructions not to answer any questions he might ask. There was to be 'no chivalry, no gossip, no cigarettes'. After admission the prisoner returned to solitary confinement, without reading matter or cigarettes. Careful precautions were taken to prevent suicide.† Unless circumstances made immediate interrogation essential this step was postponed for two or three days. The delay allowed the prisoner's suspense to build up in complete solitude, and gave time to prepare the case. This meant obtaining and digesting every scrap of information which might assist interrogation and assessment of the prisoner's story. His personal property was minutely examined for incriminating evidence such as material for secret writing, forged papers, cover addresses and aide-memoires, codes or passwords, as well as clues to personal history and movements - photographs, bus tickets, and clothing tabs.

nating evidence such as material for secret writing, forged papers, cover addresses and aide-memoires, codes or passwords, as well as clues to personal history and movements - photographs, bus tickets, and clothing tabs.

The agreement made at an early stage with Section V that the interrogators would not be allowed to see the undisguised texts of relevant ISOS messages was abrogated after long argument.

The first interrogation was considered crucial. The prisoner was brought before a board of four or five officers. He was marched in and remained standing at attention throughout an interrogation designed to impress upon him the omniscience and omnipotence of the British Secret Service; the hopelessness and isolation of his own position; and that the penalty for espionage was death and the only way he could help himself was to tell the truth. Violence was never used, either at the first interrogation or later, and questioning never extended beyond the endurance of one interrogator. Nevertheless the ordeal was formidable.

Camp 020 disposed of many resources which could be used if a prisoner did not break immediately and for exploiting and checking his story when he finally gave way. Under Home Office regulations solitary confinement could be prolonged up to 28 days, though this limit was only once reached in practice and a much shorter time usually sufficed. The prisoner might be confronted with confederates also in captivity, though experience apparently showed that this was 'a most dangerous expedient', or statements made by them. He might yield to a sympathetic approach; he might be persuaded to talk by a stool-pigeon or give himself away to another prisoner with whom he was allowed to associate in a cell covered by microphones.

The recording of interrogations was invaluable, but intelligence provided by covered associations was on the whole disappointing, apart from one case when a covered association established a prisoner's innocence. Prisoners were generally microphone conscious and rarely gave away anything which they had not already admitted in interrogation. But these facilities were important for indicating the general demeanour of prisoners and in covering the stool-pigeons at work.

Once a man's case was completed, if he was not executed, released as innocent, or released to B1A to act as a double-agent, life in Camp 020 was far from intolerable. Accommodation was good; association with other prisoners indoors and at exercise was freely allowed; there was a library and other recreational facilities. Internees could petition the Home Secretary if they wished, and many did so. Apart from the denial of visitors and letters, conditions there compared favourably with those in any other internment camp.

* There were three attempted escapes. All failed.

† There were three serious attempts at suicide. One succeeded.

HOW MANY FOLLOWED MOSLEY ?

HISTORIANS AND ACADEMICS have long argued about the strength of British Union membership, and in recent years some honest appraisals have been made on the Movement's ideology.

Other commentators have grudgingly accepted, after some 50 years of silence, that a large part of London's East End was a Blackshirt stronghold, but nevertheless suggest that Mosley's support in London was confined to that area.

In two articles specially written for COMRADE, this issue is debated. One of our contributors speaks with the official and unofficial knowledge and experience gained from marching with Mosley since he was a Blackshirt Cadet in the early days of the Movement, and continues his thesis into British Union ideology. Our other contributor has been able to study in depth the detailed membership records of a West London branch, and comes to some revealing conclusions based on fact rather than speculation.

CHANGING ATTITUDES

Historians and the BUF.3.

by PETER MARCY

FOR A NUMBER of years historians have been arguing about the BUF's membership. Was it 5,000, 9,000, 40,000, or 50,000?

It does not seem to have occurred to any of them, until recent years, to ask former members, some of whom are still alive, and almost any of whom could have told them that (a) the BUF had some 9,000 active members for almost the whole of its existence; (b) that though this total remained fairly constant, the individual members changed from being active to non-active, depending on factors such as whether or not they were in work; (c) that the non-active membership numbered some 20,000; (d) that there was also a secret membership and, as no central record of this was kept, it is only here that there is doubt about the total. The estimate by Professor Skidelsky of 40,000 members is most probably right.

In his perceptive study *THE IDEOLOGY OF THE BRITISH RIGHT 1918-1939* (Croom, Helm, 1986, £22.50.) G.C. Vebber of the University of Newcastle Upon Tyne "examines the activities and beliefs of a number of right wing Conservatives and overt Fascists in inter-war Britain." The principal thesis of Vebber is that British Fascism relied very much on the support of disillusioned Conservatives. This may be so, but many of its members regarded the BUF as a Centre Party, arguing that its combination of left

wing social reforms and right wing patriotism did not put it in an extreme position. Mosley always regarded himself as a man of the Centre.

Although Vebber thinks that the BUF had only 5,000 members in 1935, he does at least concede that there was a steady increase in the membership after 1935, and that this "may have concealed a subtle shift in the social composition of the movement due to a revival of 'respectable' middle-class Fascism in the south and south-east of England." He considers that "by 1939 the BUF was without question a middle-class organisation. In London support came mostly from disgruntled businessmen, independent taxi-drivers and small shopkeepers, and elsewhere in the country the pattern was probably similar." Before this, "in mid-1934, the BUF attracted, on the one hand, numerous professional people, ex-officers, public schoolboys, and in the rural areas relatively wealthy farmers, while on the other hand it found favour with working-class recruits, especially in the north, who were usually non-unionised and often unemployed."

The BUF's views on the

5

The Blackshirts in Ealing

by WILLIAM PARSONS

EALING in the 1930s, although a part of the old County of Middlesex, was in reality an outer suburb of West London, a predominately middle-class residential area.

How typical was Ealing BUF Branch's membership compared with dozens of similar suburban branches up and down the country? Apart from the obvious advantages of being in close proximity to the centre of BUF activities, Ealing seems to be a reasonably average branch.

The following table indicates the number of members who joined in the years 1932-1940:

Year	Number
1932	5
1933	80
1934	163
1935	28
1936	21
1937	29
1938	40
1939	83
1940	6

Total: 455

Once again, it is only in 1934-35 that members were

asked their reasons for joining. Some examples follow:

1933: A 24-year old former public schoolboy working as a salesman:

"Keep out communism and do away with all weak and hopeless parties".

1934: A 31-year old married clerk:

"Desire to see stable and progressive Government and National prosperity".

1934: An 18-year old florists assistant:

"Realisation of the terrible state of affairs in Europe today".

1935: A 37-year old housewife:

"Tired of existing condition of the country".

Other reasons include:

"Admiration of O.M."

"Fear of War"

"General interest in a live Party"

"Because I believe the Fascists policy to be a genuine one"

Nothing shows more clearly that the BUF was successful in attracting people from all walks of life, and all classes, as the cross-section of trades and occupations of its members. Some random examples of Ealing Blackshirts give a good indication of this: school-teacher; police officer; steeplejack; company director; milkman; seaman; carpenter, plus many clerks, housewives and unemployed.

The Branch was formed in 1933 although the Movement had members in the borough since 1932. Like the rest of the Country, it had a high turnover of members in 1934 to 1935 due to the influx of 'Daily Mail' readers after its front page story "Hurrah for the Blackshirts" and the proprietor Lord Rothermere's support for

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WHILE NO OTHER AREA of the Capital had local branches with four-figure membership, such as some East London branches, other London districts achieved substantial membership. In Kingston, it is known there were 120 active members, and in Wandsworth, support warranted the creation of four separate formations. Even in suburban Ealing, the membership in 1937 exceeded 230, before the influx of new members as war clouds gathered.

It should also be remembered that a complete assessment of British Union strength should take into account, the large number of supporters, who for various reasons, never became card-carrying members, but whose dedication to Mosley, and to Britain, was second to none.

REGULATION EC SACKCLOTH SUITS AND CANVAS SHOES

AT HIS GREAT MEETINGS after the War, Mosley used to say that we had no need to fear any loss of national identity when we entered a United Europe. After all, had our co-patriots north of the border ceased to be Scots since entering the United Kingdom? We who listened at the time knew well enough where the real threat to our national identity came from, even long before the flood-gates of India and the Caribbean were fully opened.

But when we united with the Scots, we didn't tell them that their haggis should henceforth conform with regulations appertaining to the English sausage. Neither did we attempt to bring their legal system, in many respects fundamentally different from the English, into line. Nobody ever complained that commerce or the common good

THOUGHTS THAT COME IN A

By GORDON
BECKWELL

COME
IN A



A Column
of
Forward
Looking
personal
views on
Mosley
Thought

were handicapped as a result. We lived with minor differences and accommodated local preferences. Our strength came from the union of what mattered most, such as one market, one military and one monetary system.

Those who are shaping the administration of the EC see things differently. They confuse unification with standardisation and singularity with conformity. The national press is never slow to highlight the worst examples. Chocolate manufactured to the British taste may no longer be described: it does not meet the bureaucrat's benchmark for dairy fat content. Varieties of apples long favoured in these islands will have to go as they do not appear on the 'approved' list. Beware, this year's

Golden Russet may be your last.

The trouble with petty bureaucrats unchallenged is that they grow bolder. Minor irritations can soon be followed by major nightmares. Opposition to their brainless creations should not be confused with lack of commitment to United Europe. But while we have government luke-warm at best to that great concept, this is exactly how it will be seen.

Harmonisation in many essential matters is a key factor in releasing the full potential of a continent held back too long by historical divisions.

But to have us all wearing Regulation EC Sackcloth Suits and Canvas Shoes is not one of them.

MISSING THE BUS SECOND TIME ROUND

WHY is it that so many democratic politicians seem to acquire great wisdom and perception only after retiring from high office?

The speaker at this year's Dimpleby Lecture was former German Chancellor Schmidt. There was no doubt in his mind that Russia would continue to remain an economic backland for at least the next 20 years. There was no question of a unified Germany drawing closer to Russia at the expense of United Europe. Russia had nothing to sell and no money to buy. But she will remain a major military power: her nuclear weapons alone guaranteed that. America will continue to be a great military and economic power. (He obviously hadn't read the front page of the last 'Comrade'). Japan would be a great economic but not military power. This would also be the case for Europe.

But it was on the question of European Monetary Union that the well-deserved rap over the knuckles came. "You British stayed out of the Common Market for too long and had no say in the form it took. You know you'll have to join the Monetary Union sooner or later. If you join now you can help to shape it. Delay and you make the same mistake again".

Oswald Mosley made the same point about procrastination in the very first issue of the Mosley News Letter way back in November 1946.

"To drift and to lose this hour in the idle talk of a fexterous opponent who plays for time and his own opportunity will not be forgotten by that High Fate which rules the destiny of States."

still small but steadily increasing number of works by younger historians who are seeking "to clarify and analyse the beliefs that those on the Right held and to demonstrate the fact that, in contrast to the assumptions which are usually made, these ideas were diverse, fluid and often interesting."

FRIENDS of O.M.
MANCHESTER
AFTERNOON BUFFET
Sunday
September 16 1990

4

CHANGING ATTITUDES Historians and the BUF-3.

support the Fascists were least recaptive to the official ideology of the BUF. Mosley was an economic 'moderniser', most of the old-fashioned Tories who were sympathetic to Fascism were economic reactionaries" Webber, who divides his theoretical Right into categories, the BUF coming under the classification of "Capitalist Statists" On page 78 he writes:

"...despite the popular view that Mosley had turned to Fascism because he developed an abstract lust for power, the truth was that Mosley sought power for the specific purpose of solving the economic problems of the time and that his brand of Fascism was as a result peculiarly programmatic from the very beginning. So, in contrast to continental Fascism where the authority of the state was the first concern, 'in the BUF the attack on the political system was an outgrowth of an economic analysis'.

the essence of the purely economic problem had been consistently identified by Mosley as one of under-consumption (a standard ILP analysis), and this itself was held to be the result of three major factors. The first was the lack of

purchasing power; the second was the 'outdated' system of distribution which was no longer capable of coping with the increased productive capacity of industry; and the third was the increasing intensity of the struggle for foreign markets amongst all nations which led to an ever-diminishing home market for goods produced in Britain. The solutions were held to be the creation of a system of imperial 'autarky'.

The concept of the corporate state, though it was one of the central planks of the BUF's constructive programme, was not, in fact, a very fully developed idea in Mosley's own thinking. For him the essential requirement was to create a system of managed capitalism wherein the government could regulate the factors of demand and supply by the manipulation of wage and price levels, and in this he had been influenced more by the theories of Keynes and the examples of Roosevelt than he had been by Mussolini or by Hitler."

One curious thing that emerges from this book is the fierce opposition of politicians who might have been thought to have been sympathetic to the idea, to the return to Germany of its colonies. Leopold Amery, for

example had advocated a world system of co-equal power blocs and an isolationist Empire, opposed any kind of European or American alliance and favoured European political unity! Apparently Amery feared that handing these mandated territories back would "undermine imperial defence." One wonders what Amery's thoughts on "imperial defence" were during the last years of his life, in the de-imperialized world he had inadvertently helped to create.

An Appendix contains useful information about political organisations and potted biographies of, among others, Carlyon Bellairs, Major-General Fuller, the Earl of Glasgow, Lord Sempill, and Francis Yeats-Brown. One prominent person who does not figure in this is Lieutenant-General Sir George Fletcher MacMunn, formerly Commander-in-Chief in Mesopotamia and Quarter Master General in India, author of many learned books, and the BUF's principal adviser on Indian Policy.

The ideas of British Fascists have certainly constituted a topic that "has been relatively neglected in the existing academic literature." Webber's book is a most welcome addition to the

CONGRATULATIONS

ACTION

BRITISH DOMINION
ATTACKED BY LARGUR

THE ROSE PRENTICE, widow of British Union and Union Movement's Charlie Prentice on her remarriage in Australia.

The Prentice's emigrated some 20 years ago, Rose losing her husband in 1981.

Seen here in an 'Action Sales Drive' at a 'South African Boycott' meeting in Trafalgar Square in 1960, Rose was one of Union Movement's most active women workers. She was appointed National Women's Organiser in 1961.

We send our Best Wishes to Rose for her future happiness.

1 but not for the British British citizens imprisoned without charge or trial fifty years ago, does not extend to the crimes that have been alleged committed by foreign nationals in a foreign country outside British jurisdiction some 50 years ago.

Replying for the Government in the debate on the War Crimes Bill in March - that piece of retroactive legislation alien to British law, enabling the hounding to their graves, a handful of old men to fulfill the Jewish law of revenge - he said: 'there is no point at which a crime could be forgotten simply because it occurred a long time ago.' But justice for British people unjustly imprisoned a long time ago?

Over the last half-century it has been ever so. The politicians of all parties have always put the interests of our own people at the end of the queue. And the Government, having succumbed to international Jewish pressure, Mr. Patten obviously knows all about choosing horses for courses. He should go far.

Mr. Patten no doubt heads the high purpose and honesty set by his Prime Minister. Did she not in one of her recent lectures to Mr. Gorbachev suggest that the 'new Russia' should have a British 'Magna Carta', prohibiting the imprisonment without charge or trial?

In Memoriam

"Hark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages"

ANDREWS, W.A.: Sth. Hammersmith Branch BU On 2.9.1938

BARRON, David: BU: UM organiser and speaker, Oxford: In August 1980

BELLARS, Commander Carlyon: BU: former MP Maidstone and lecturer RN College: Action contributor: On 22 August 1955

BELLAMY, Richard Reynall "Dick": BU historian: former Northern Organiser: In August 1988

BOX, H.: Westminster St. George's BU Founder member Cab Trade Group: On 9 September 1939

BURROWS, T.H.: Islington British Union: In September 1936

CALLAGHAN, Maj. G.N.: Father of 3 daughter members and husband Woman O/Ldr: In September 1938

CHARLES, D.E.: NHQ Staff, In August 1936

DAY, A.E.: E/London BU: Dealer post war of rare books, Dublin. In September 1974

de LAESSA, Major, DSO MC: BU: detained 188 with Mrs. de Laessa: A founder member Norwich and King's Lynn Union Movement: In August 1948

DIXON, R.: Early member Nelson & Colne BU: In September 1938

DOCMRA, Joe: Hackney BU: 1940-1945 Merchant Navy: On 26 August 1988

DOMVILLE, Adm. Sir Barry, KBE CB CMC: Former Dir. of Naval Intelligence & Pres. RN College: Founder Anglo-German "Link": Detained 188: Son also detained, another killed in action 1941: Author "From Admiral to Cabin Boy" 1947: On 13.9.1971

ELLIOTT, Flo: Slough BU: husband detained 188: Founder member Bournemouth UM later Sth. London activist. In September 1982

EYKES, E.C. "Eddy": Upminster: former Sth. London BU and UM. On 17 August 1986

FIELD, Bill: N/London Union Movement: early member after Army: at 67. On 31 August 1984

GOODWIN, Phillip: Union Movement Branch Organiser, Newport, Isle Wight. In September 1989

HART, E.D.: Research Dept. BU & Ed. "Action" briefly 1940 for which detained 188: Pioneer of UM. In August 1950

HAWORTH Lt-Col Sir Lionel Berkeley: Holt, KBE: 80 Yorks Lt. Infantry: 2nd Bombay Lancers & 9th Bombay Inf.: Consul Gen. Meshad, Khorasan & Fars, Khuzestan, and Persian Coasts & Islands: BU Candidate for Chelsea. On 11 Sept 1951

MEYS, Norman: BU Accrington & UM Brighouse. In September 1980

MOLLINGTON, "Aunt Maud": BU & UM Loyal Mosley supporter: At 100: In August 1987

JENES, Jorian: BU Agricultural Adv. Candidate Horsham & Worthing: Detained 188: UM Agricultural Council. On 20 August 1963

JOHNSON, J.W.: Bethnal Green shoemaker & BU member: detained 188. On 8 September 1958

LIGHTFOOT, Leon: British Union District Leader Guildford. In September 1938

MACE, Reg: Wiltshire. former BU A/D Ldr Epping. In August 1988

MARCANTONIO, Frank: British Union In motor cycle accident. On September 17 1936

MITCHELL, Andrew H.: Glasgow UM Merchant Navy. Died at sea. In September 1950

ORRIN, Miss Elsie: London British speaker: French, German and music teacher: Imprisoned two years in war for criticising Churchill: Union Movement Branch Leader St. Marylebone September 4 1962

PARFITT, W.J.: 20, Spelthorne British Union. In August 1936

PODMORE, Harold: BU Norwood and London Dist/Insp. In Canada. In August 1988

ROSDOWN, Wm G.: Bethnal Green BU and UM. In September 1952

ROWLANDS, Mrs Martha: BU & mother. BU & UM's Jack Rowlands: At 92: In August 1977

STEER, Eric: Mitcham speaker British Union: 188 political prisoner: On 26 August 1954

SWIFT, Reginald "Swifty": Upton BU: In September 1938

TAYLOR, Fay: 1939s top woman racing driver: joined BU after start of war and was detained 188: Remained loyal supporter of UM in UM until her death. On 2 August 1983

WATTS, C.F. "Charlie": Dist/Insp Westminster St. George BU: Organiser London Cab Trade Group: BU Camp Leader Ascot Concentration Camp. On 26 August 1971

WILLIAMSON, Henry: NHQ Branch BU: Author "Tarka the Otter". On 13 August 1977

"Patriots; your cry is heeded!
Heroes; death was not in vain!
We to your place have succeeded,
Britain shall be great again!"

OLD COMRADES



The Blackshirts in Ealing

4 The Movement. They had little understanding of the BUF's purpose, and when the short-lived support was withdrawn, they left as quickly as they had come.

Interestingly, the Branch refused admission to unsuitable recruits, even in 1935 to 1936 when recruiting was poor in comparison to the high peak of the 'Rothermere support' period. By 1937, the Ealing membership, [234 members, May 1937], had stabilised and very few lapsed memberships or resignations were recorded.

It is generally agreed that the BUF attracted many young people into its ranks. Ealing fits this assumption in that the majority of its recruits were in the age group 18-25. Also, the rumoured high female support is reflected in that almost 25% [113] of Ealing's members were women.

It is less easy to give a clear picture of the religious affiliations of members. This was only asked for in 1934-35. However, on the information available, the Branch seemed particularly successful in the recruitment of Catholics. This would appear to agree with the findings of other studies of the Movement as a whole.

One of the most successful areas of local recruiting was with busmen, and by late 1939, many had been enrolled from Hanwell Bus Garage. This is in keeping with other reports indicating strong support for the BUF at Hounslow and Sutton Garages. Also very active in the late 1930s was Charlie Watts's Cab Trade Group which recruited local taxi drivers into the Branch.

With the exception of a few early British Fascists and a sprinkling of former Empire Crusaders and Junior Imperial League members, most recruits were new into politics.

One of Oswald Mosley's avowed aims on the formation of the BUF was to seek support from people outside politics and uncommitted to the 'Old Gang' parties.

In the case of Ealing, this is what his Movement achieved.

The Commemoration Dinner

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 17th 1990

Make your reservation

Sleep on John Charnley and British Union comrades.

Justice you may have been denied, but your honesty and integrity lives on to paint a path from which seed shall grow to harvest high above such as those small-minded men of the the corrupting world of politics that denied you justice.

1 OUR BLACKSHIRT DEAD

An Exeter Branch Blackshirt, his District Leader remembers him as "One of the best types of Englishmen. We often discussed his and his country's future at the small camp we held for young British Union members. Alas, like his father killed in World War I, he did not have much of a future, nor did his Country. Or his mother. He was her only son."

COMRADE

NEWSLETTER OF FRIENDS OF O.M. NO.26 OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 1990

"The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow"



"KILLED IN ACTION IN THE WAR WHICH HE, A BLACKSHIRT, HAD
FOUGHT JUST AS COURAGEOUSLY TO PREVENT"

BLACKSHIRT DAM BUSTER



By JOHN
CHRISTIAN

WE ENROL in our Roll of Honour in this issue, another of Mosley's young men, who nearly fifty years ago, was killed in action in the war which he, as a Blackshirt, had fought just as courageously to prevent. At 21, 'dambuster' DENNIS LUCAN, Distinguished Flying Medal, who joined North East Leeds Branch of British Union when still at school as a Blackshirt Cadet, was blown to pieces above the Rhine.

On going to press we do not have details of his early RAF service, or of citation for his DFM, our story starting with his posting from 17 OTU to 617 Squadron nine months before his death.

LEST WE FORGET

"In Flanders fields
the poppies blow
Between the crosses,
row on row
That mark our
place;....."

**Let not so the
desert bloom**

1914-1918: The age, for we who survived the second Armageddon, of our fathers we never saw, and on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month of that latter year, the guns fell silent on the blood-drenched battlefields of Europe. The greatest war in history,

Turn to Page 5

'The Dambusters', or 'the suicide squadron', as named in the RAF, had been formed in 1943 for one special job - to smash the Moehne and Eder Dams, the exploit, with Barnes Wallis's 'bouncing bombs' for which Wing Commander Guy Gibson was awarded the Victoria Cross. The Squadron continued on as a 'special duties squadron', all its crewmen being volunteers who could leave it anytime they wished.

"Tirpitz" bombed

A Flight Sergeant and wireless operator, Dennis Lucan's first operation was as front gunner. It was a pin point attack which devastated the Michelin rubber factory at Clermont Ferrand. He was commissioned and joined the crew with whom he was to die after completing 27 operations during that spring and summer, including the bombing of the German battleship *Tirpitz* in Norway's Alten Fiord in the Arctic Circle from a Russian base near Archangel.

By October, the Wehrmacht had retreated into Germany, and the Americans had halted

by the Rhine at the Belfort Gap. Ahead, by the Swiss frontier on the Rhine was the Kembs Dam, and it was believed the Germans would blow the flood-gates to destroy the American assault troops as they stormed the river.

The flood-gates had therefore to be smashed before the assault. It could not be high level bombing and direct hits would be useless. Only a low level attack in daylight by 617 Squadron, loaded with Barnes Wallis's 'tallboys' dropped low before the flood-gates to slide into the dam would be effective, and the dam was heavily defended.

'suicide squad'

And so it was that just after lunch on that autumn day, almost on the anniversary of the birth of his British Union, Blackshirt airman Dennis Lucan took off from Woodhall Spa with the crew of Lancaster IM482, one of the six bomber 'suicide squad' who aimed to liquidate the Kembs Dam - or be liquidated.

With them went a second six who were to high level bomb the target to draw the flak, as were a Mustang fighter squadron who with guns and rockets would dive the flak pits, and as the low level squad approached the target and started their bomb run, low over the water, they observed ahead, the battle over the dam in full spate according to plan.

Four of the Lancasters somehow got through the through the heavy flak, now directed at them, dropped their bomb load, and they were over the dam and climbing flat out for the safety of hills. A fifth Lancaster was hit over the dam, and on

fire, dived into the river bank.

For Dennis Lucan and the crew of IM482, it was a chance too far. Over-shooting the dam, they went round for a lone second run in. A single target for all the guns. They caught it well before the dam with the bomb aboard. And then there was nothing, and silence for an half-hour until a 'tall-boy' delayed-action fuse blew, and with a roar a torrent of water rushed through a floodgate.

TALLBOYS: There were six members of North East Leeds Branch British Union who the corrupt wartime Government falsely listed as potential traitors, and imprisoned them without charge or trial.

British Union
ROLL OF HONOUR
1939 1945

"What though we ourselves
are swifter,
This, our faith can never
die!"

BANKS, Lt. Jack P.L.

20:R. Sussex Regt. att.
Gloucesters: Brighton
Branch British Union:
killed in action Nov.
3 1944: buried Geel War
War Cemetery, Belgium.

BUCKNELL, Sgt. Ronald:

RAF VR:83 Sqdn: killed
in action Berlin op.
15 November 1940: Re-
membered Runnymede Air
Force Memorial: member
Croydon Br. British Un.

GILLIES, W/OFF John H:

RAF VR 511 Sqdn.: 26:
British Union speaker
4 member Leytonstone
Br.: killed on ops.
30 November 1943 off
Portsmouth: Remembered
Runnymede Air Force
Memorial.

LIDDE, Pte. W.F.: REME:

Norwood Br. British Un:
killed in action Norm-
andy 27 October 1944:
Remembered on Services
Memorial, Norwood Cem-
etery, Lambeth.

LUCAN, P/O Dennis, DFM:

RAF VR 617 "Dambuster"
Sqdn: 21: N/E Leeds Br.
British Union: killed
in action Kembs Dam
7 October 1944: buried
Durnbach War Cemetery
Germany.

WHITE, Lt. Albert E. RNVR

36: Leicester Branch
British Union: killed
in action HM Trawler
Northern Rover: Nov-
ember 5 1939: Remem-
bered Lowestoft War
Memorial.

'Great' Men of Our Time

FRANKLYN D. ROOSEVELT

by PETER MARCY

FRANKLYN D. ROOSEVELT became the 32nd President of the United States in 1933 when the world economic crisis was at its worst. He began his "New Deal" by closing all the banks. Businessmen were asked not to reduce prices; farmers were paid not to produce unmarketable crops; the stock exchanges were controlled; America went off the Gold Standard; and Federal funds were used to initiate a vast programme of public work projects, such as the Tennessee Valley Authority.

These policies - very much along the lines of the expansionist policies advocated for some years by Mosley - gave Roosevelt a landslide victory in 1936, and he then began to turn his attention to foreign affairs, with fateful consequences for the future of the world.



Mosley and his first wife Lady Cynthia on a fishing trip off Florida with Roosevelt in 1926.

Mosley was on a study tour of American industry and technique. Roosevelt became President six years later.

'The hot, cloudy impulses of Roosevelt were a catastrophe not only to the British Empire but to all Europe'...Mosley

Until December 1941, American public opinion was overwhelmingly isolationist, so Roosevelt had to tread very carefully indeed.

His undeclared foreign policy objectives were:

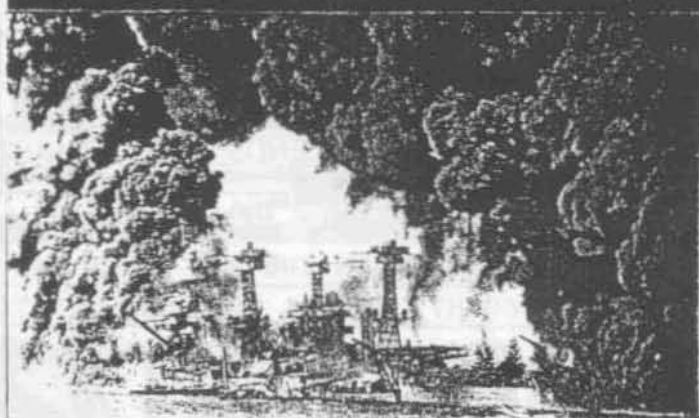
- - The replacement of Super Power Britain by Super Power America.
- - Friendship and support for the Soviet Union.
- - Destruction of the existing regimes of Germany and Japan.

Roosevelt had recognised the Soviet Government in 1933 and he now suggested that "aggressive nations" should be put into quarantine. He began to build up the US Navy and embarked on a rearmament programme. Neutrality Acts had been passed in 1935 and 1937. In the autumn of 1939 he got these amended to allow purchases of war materials.

In 1940 he was elected for a third term. It was during this Presidential election campaign that Roosevelt -

IT IS a fascinating possibility that Mosley was responsible for the germ of an idea for the 'New Deal'. From his election to Parliament, he had consistently advocated a policy of Government-directed economic expansion. During his fishing trip it is unlikely that the conversation was limited to the types and sizes of the catch!

Pearl Harbour bombed: US at war



Two of the ships destroyed in the Japanese attack USS Virginia and USS Tennessee. 'A devastating blow that must have shaken Roosevelt. But he got what he wanted'

one of the trickiest double-dealers in history - gave his "Mothers and Fathers of Boston Pledge": "I have said this before but I shall say it again and again and again. Your boys are not going to be sent out into any foreign wars." All this time he was plotting to get America into the War.

By the Autumn of 1940 Britain was broke and on 11 December Lord Lothian, British Ambassador in Washington, appealed to the Americans for help. Roosevelt agreed to get rid of the "silly, foolish old dollar-sign" in the two countries relations and Lend-Lease was approved on 11 March 1941. Though described by Churchill as "the most unsordid act in history" it was far from generous, and was abruptly terminated on 20 August 1945.

In October 1940, Roosevelt expressed to Admiral Richardson his conviction that only a "stunning incident" would induce Congress to declare war. A year later he was able to arrange such an "incident".

It was Roosevelt who decided to manufacture the atom bomb - even though scientists did not know if an atomic explosion would be limited - or would destroy the earth.

In October 1941 he suggested to Churchill that work should be carried out

jointly by Britain and USA, and many British scientists were transferred to USA.

The Tripartite Agreement between Germany, Italy and Japan of 27 September 1940 gave Roosevelt the opportunity he had long been waiting for. He began to work to bring Japan into the war because this was the only way he could get the American people to support war.

He demanded the withdrawal of Japan from China; he closed the Panama Canal to Japanese shipping; he embargoed the supply of petrol and other essential materials to Japan; and he refused the Japanese offer of talks with Premier Konoye.

Knowing that Japan had always begun hostilities with a surprise attack, Roosevelt made sure that the US Pacific Fleet was in Hawaii and understrength. The intercepts of Japanese coded signals that would have warned the American Naval and Military Commanders at Pearl Harbour were deliberately withheld from them.

The result was not just the "stunning incident" that would provide an excuse for war, but a devastating blow that must have shaken Roosevelt. But he got what he wanted.

During the next four days Japan declared war on USA and Britain; Britain on Finland, Hungary and Romania; the USA, Britain and Canada on Japan; Australia, New Zealand and South Africa on Japan; China on Germany and Italy, and lastly - on 11 December - Germany and Italy on the USA.

On 14 January 1943, at the Casablanca Conference with Churchill, Roosevelt pro-

European carve up at Yalta



With the war in Europe almost over, Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin share out the spoils of victory. But who had won? 'Enormous unnecessary concessions were made to Stalin', and Roosevelt suggested that he should resubmit his plan to summary shoot 50,000 German officers

2 Roosevelt

claimed a policy of "unconditional surrender", the effect of which was to prolong the war by two years.

In November 1943 at the Teheran Conference, when Stalin demanded that 50,000 German officers should be summarily shot, Roosevelt proposed that this should be reduced to 49,500. He can hardly have been joking because at the Yalta Conference in 1945—when enormous unnecessary concessions were made to Stalin—Roosevelt expressed the hope that Stalin would propose another such plan.

The infamous Morgenthau Plan to destroy the whole of German industry and transform Germany into a pastoral country, even if it meant mass starvation, was approved by Roosevelt at Quebec in September 1944. After the Potsdam Conference of July 1945 it resulted in the transfer of much of Germany's industrial plant to the Soviet Union.

Roosevelt's blind faith in Stalin resulted in an easy-going domestic climate which allowed vast numbers of Soviet espionage agents to operate not only in all the atomic weapons and other military establishments but inside the White House.

Between 1936 and 1940, he had tried to induce Mussolini to attack Hitler, and when Marshal Badoglio formed a non-fascist Government in 1943, Roosevelt pressured him into announcing that his Government was at war with

Germany. This meant that Italy suffered even greater devastation and death, for more than 18 months longer than it need have.

Following his sudden death in 1945, it was left to Harry S. Truman to attempt redress some of the disastrous results of Roosevelt's devious and naive foreign policies. He devised the Truman Doctrine of economic aid to resist the further spread of Communism, which was followed by the Marshall Plan. He supported the formation of NATO and went to South Korea's aid in the Korean War.

But thanks to Roosevelt, most of the Far East and half of Europe was enslaved to Communist terror, from which, in the latter, the orphans of the incalculable murdered and missing are only now, after some 50 years, striving to emerge in a triumph of the human spirit.

Since then American military might has become increasingly ineffective—to the extent that it has been unable even to solve the problem of Communist regimes on its own doorstep.

One ponders if our latter-day US President now hopelessly anticipates a 'mini-Pearl Harbour' under desert skies. A new Armageddon and aftermath of further redistribution of the world's wealth and its peoples.

● **TAILPIECE:** "We have been milking the British financial cow..." Roosevelt 1940: Harold L. Ickes Diary

THOUGHTS THAT By GORDON BECKWELL COME IN A

A Column
of
Forward
Looking
personal
views on
Mosley
Thought

Echoes of 1939

SADDAM HUSSEIN is not the world's favourite person. But before we are launched on a war that could cost a million lives, and divides Arab from European for a generation, we should keep the facts in perspective.

How many people voted for the Emir of Kuwait at their last election? To hear western leaders squeal you would think the Iraqi's had squashed some fledgling democracy. In fact Kuwait was governed on autocratic feudal lines by people who lined their pockets, were unpopular with their own people, and who thought nothing of pumping oil from beneath their neighbour's sand. It's unfortunate that the Kuwaitis have exchanged one Arab despot for another. But is it really our business to become involved in war to reverse the event. Or should it be left to the Arab world to sort out, albeit without instant solution?

Mosley used to say that Europe should fight for Europe only, or in defence of its vital interests. The alternative, he pointed out, was to become a global policeman responsible for the good behaviour of the whole world. But if we do that, we condemn our people to perpetual war, because there is some Gadaffi, Khomeni or Idi Amin spoiling for trouble.

Unless it affects us, let's keep our noses out of other people's business.

The Stink of Oil

The Gulf Crisis has nothing to do with defending the high moral ground that the politicians and media would have us believe.

It has everything to do with obtaining cheap oil for Big Business interests.

One London paper reported recently: 'Oil prices are now the highest for 10 years'. Sounds serious put that way. But hang on, nothing else costs the same

as 10 years ago so why should oil? The world sits in a sea of oil. The Falklands floats on it. Australia has enough shale oil to supply the whole world for at least 30 years, but its more expensive to extract than Gulf oil.

So we cannot even claim that we are intervening to defend our vital interests. The long term availability of oil is not in question.

It's cheap oil that's in peril.

It is suggested by 'expert opinion', a grouping in which I would include the British and United States Governments, that Iraqi expansion into Kuwait and Saudi Arabia would permit Saddam Hussein to hold the world to ransom over oil, but as OPEC found 15 years ago, the producers cannot keep the price of oil artificially high for long.

Only petrol companies can do that.

Autarky in Oil

If a United Europe was self-sufficient in oil, we could cease interfering in Arab affairs and stop falling foul of all parties. Mosley envisaged that Australia, Canada, Argentina and eventually a liberated eastern Europe should join. Those lands would not only contain North Sea and Falklands oil, but Romanian, Australian and Canadian fields. Enough for all our needs. The higher price of extraction from the newer developments could even prove a boon, encouraging serious energy conservation and contributing to the solution of global warming.

The important factor is that to have true political control over your own affairs, we have to be part of an area containing all its own raw materials, manufacturing capacity, foodstuffs and energy supplies as envisaged by Mosley in 'The Alternative' in 1947.

And we wouldn't have to endure the embarrassment of having a Prime Minister whose only role is to play a nodding dog in the back window of President Bush's gas-guzzling Chevrolet.

'Echoes of a People's courage—Witness to a Nation's shame'

1940: The men they jailed



Capt. D.M.K. Marendaz

By JOHN CHRISTIAN

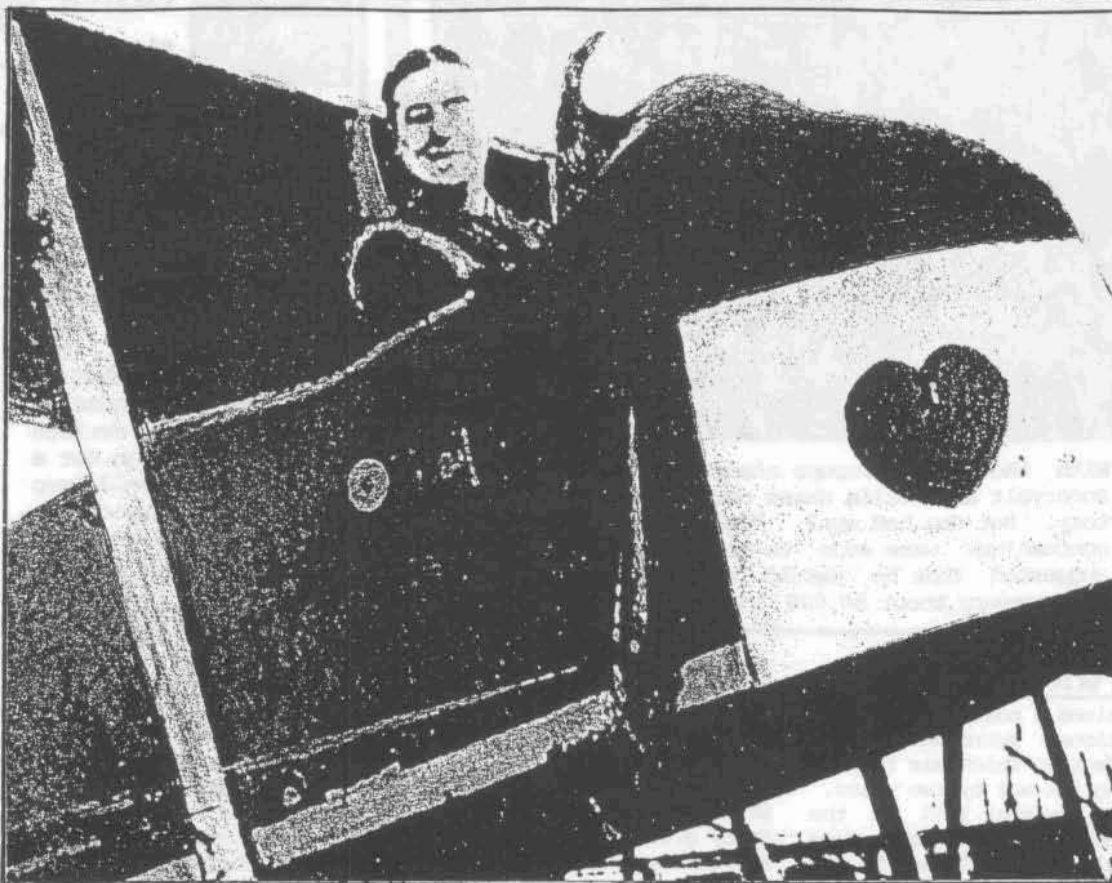
HONoured in our "In Memoriam" column in this issue, Captain D.M.K. Marendaz was also rightly honoured in Obituaries in the media when he died on November 6 1988 at the age of 91.

'A swashbuckling ex-Royal Flying Corps pilot, who has his niche in the history of the sports car for the series of elegant custom built vehicles which bore his name....in the Twenties and Thirties' said the Times. 'A flier of the old school' who 'regarded his generations of pilots as the last of the true knights of the air....in their fragile contraptions of wire and fabric'. The story was also told of Marendaz's part in the historic battle of Cambrai when over 300 tanks were launched on the German lines and when he was the only spotter pilot to penetrate the fog over the battlefield and transmit vital information. They also paid tribute to his exceptional qualities and the service given to many aspects of our national life.

But what was left unsaid in those national newsheets

'Despite his unquestioned patriotism, he was interned during the war because of his political views'

Classic and Sportscar, February 1989



The 20-year old DONALD MARENDAZ in the cockpit of a Maurice Farman trainer in 1917

was that Captain Marendaz, who like so many other fighting men of World War 1 had proved their patriotism in that holocaust, had been imprisoned without charge or trial under the infamous 18B Regulation in World War 11, an obituary in a classic car magazine alone reporting his detention, **"despite his unquestioned patriotism"** and who later were to intimate that this was for being a **"committed supporter of Sir Oswald Mosley."**

Donald Marendaz joined the RFC in 1916 and was in combat over the Western Front after only twenty hours flying. In November 1917, he was the only spotter pilot to penetrate the fog over the battlefield on the first day

of the offensive, which for the first time massed tanks were to be used in battle.

Marendaz was in fact spotting for the cavalry which had remained inactive for most of the war. The order of battle was that the cavalry would charge across the bridge on the St. Quentin-L'Escaut Canal at Masnières after a gap had been forced in the German front by the tanks.

All Allied and German aircraft had been grounded, but there was Marendaz, cruising at 5,000 feet after nearly an hour's climb at 8 am that cold November morning. Unable to see a thing he

took his Armstrong-Whitworth down to 150 feet, risking the onslaught of enemy rifle fire. Breaking through the fog blanket, he immediately saw that the severely damaged bridge would not stand the weight of a cavalry charge so he sent a message in Morse, an action that prevented a disastrous end for the cavalry.

After the war he devoted his tireless energy to engineering, and partnered the launch of the original Alvis car, followed by the Marseal which developed a sports model which Captain Marendaz frequently raced at Brooklands.

GREAT BRITISH VICTORY.

BYNG STRIKES ON THE RIGHT.

FIVE-MILE ADVANCE.
HINDENBURG LINE
BROKEN.

A BATTLE OF TANKS.
8,000 PRISONERS.

The Times and Saturday

The Times

November 24 1917



A British tank that failed to bridge a German trench in the 1917 Cambrai offensive

4 DONALD MARENDAZ

In 1926 came the Marendaz Special which over the next ten years established a high sporting reputation, the Captain beating many records at Monlhery and Brooklands.

The highest point of his achievement was the Coventry Climax-engined Special raced by Aileen Moss, mother of Stirling, but in 1936, production ceased at his Maidenhead factory owing to the increasing competition from the mass production car industry.

Captain Marendaz then devoted his energy and abilities to his earlier love and became the owner of two airfields, where at Government request, he set up flying schools which turned out nearly 500 pilots, many of were to achieve distinction in the Battle of Britain. He also designed and built three aircraft, one of which was a trainer with a retractable undercarriage and could 'hover', and a Marendaz Special fighter which he claimed was superior to the Spitfire. Both were rejected by the same

It lives on

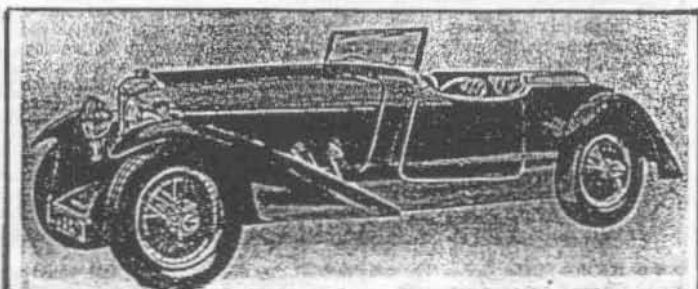
THERE WERE around 120 of the custom built, elegant MARENDAZ vehicles manufactured over a period of ten years in the Twenties and Thirties, and 22 of these survive.

Some have been rebuilt or

MARENDAZ SPECIAL REGISTER



in a state of rebuilding, and there is a Marendaz Special Register which publishes a newsletter.



The 2 litre Coventry Climax-engined 15/90 Marendaz Special of 1935

Air Ministry department who rejected Whittle's jet engine.

As war clouds gathered, he was granted facilities - just six weeks before the British war declaration - to visit the Luftwaffe to observe the training of their pilots.

After the war he emigrated

to South Africa, where he was born, and manufactured industrial diesel engines, returning to Britain in 1971, where in the seclusion of his Lincolnshire home, he ensured by his writings that his Marendaz Special would live on among the names of the giants of that exhilarating age of 1930s

motor sport.

It was also the age of the birth of British Union, and many such men as Donald Marendaz found a home within its ranks. He was certainly a 'committed supporter' of Mosley, and is believed to have been a personal friend - Mosley was also ex-Royal Flying Corps. He took a great interest in the BUF's Automobile Club and was frequently at their gatherings at NHQ, as was Sir Malcolm Campbell - he carried the pennant of the BUF's London Volunteer Transport Service on his world record breaking run in his 'Bluebird' at Daytona in March 1935.

Detained in the summer of 1940 with several hundred Mosley supporters, one-third of whom were ex-servicemen of the war of his youth, Donald Marendaz no doubt pondered on the quality of the ruling politicians who labelled as potential traitors, men whose loyalty to Britain was proven by their past.

of 'Never Again' as the politicians with false argument again led the nation to the slaughter in what for Britain was an avoidable and unnecessary war.

The human cost of the second holocaust was 55 million dead, more than half civilians. Large areas of Europe handed over to tyranny that had killed more of its own people in peacetime than the defeated enemy was charged with doing so in wartime at 'War Crimes' trials, and who continued the process with the subject peoples. And a new 'Third World' where tyrant follows tyrant and where even now after nearly 50 years, killings, mass murder and civil war is the norm.

By the time these words are read, the decaying bodies of British and American boys could be lying under desert skies, slaughtered in a new war in which vital Western interests are not at stake.

Despite the siren voices of British Prime Minister and American President, the 'just war' arguments are false. Above the rhetoric is the stink of cheap oil, and even stronger the smell of the machinations of Israel and its fifth column in the Western world.

Until the problem of Israel is solved, a foreign state forced on Arab lands, there will be no peace in the Middle East. It is from there that the major Arab problems stem.

Lest We Forget

the war to 'End All Wars' had come to an end.

Ten million dead was the human cost. For Britain and the Empire a million dead. Three million wounded, many of whom, benedicted, blind and limbed, decorated the streets of our towns and cities, their pride submerged to raise a pittance to feed their starving families in the hungry Twenties and Thirties, a monument to the betrayal of 'the lost generation', and to those who returned to live in the land they promised 'to be fit for heroes to live in.'

But 'the hard faced men who did well out of the war', well invested in the political party system that was incapable of solving the problem of poverty in the age of plenty, did grant the stricken nation a monument, and a symbol of remembrance to 'Our Glorious Dead'. They built a Cenotaph in Whitehall, and they returned from the killing fields of Flanders, the body of an Unknown Soldier and reburied him in the Abbey at Westminster on the eleventh hour of the eleventh month on the second anniversary of the silencing of

the guns.

For the mass of the British people, the symbolism fulfilled a void in their hearts, and for two decades on Armistice, later Remembrance Day they paid homage to the sacrifice of their dead fathers and sons, brothers, uncles, and those unknown, and for two minutes on the eleventh hour, day and month, the silence of remembrance reigned, within the confines of their own homes, in public places, and at War Memorials in village, town and city. Men doffed their hats and road transport halted, and in that silence of the dead grieved at the folly of it all.

The Silent Two Minutes, they said, 'LEST WE FORGET' and 'NEVER AGAIN'.

In Europe, the politicians got to work. Germany alone was accredited with war guilt and pay reparations which as economist John Maynard Keynes predicted, created 'chaos by depressing German and other European economies to starvation point' and that the Paris Treaty only settled 'political grudges'.

Fighting an election, British Prime Minister Lloyd George promised to 'squeeze the German lemon until the pips squeak', but was later

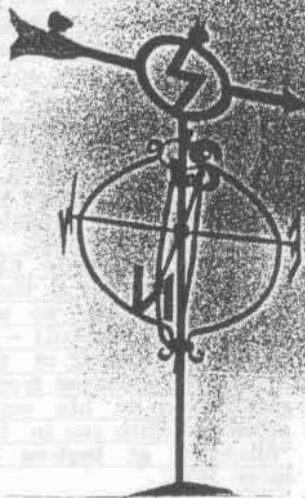
filled with dismay at the French demands in the Versailles Treaty. 'We shall have to fight another war all over again in 25 years' he said. He was in error by five years.

For Germany, whose own war dead approached two million, with nearly seven million military wounded, was forced to cede over 27,000 sq.m. by redrawn frontiers, and six million of her people became minorities in the newly created artificial states of Poland and Czechoslovakia.

In the Middle East, previously under Turkish rule, the politicians also created new states by pen and rule across the desert wastes, and set the seal on the last 50 years of conflict in that area by the signing of the Balfour Declaration, which in return for international Jewish support for the war, Britain would assist in the creation of a national home for the Jews in Palestine, who at that time numbered only one-tenth of the Arab community.

In 1939 came the second explosion of devastation and death, and one can but ponder on what happened to that great emotion of remembrance of the folly of it all, and the tortured anguished cry

'The Spirit Lives'



BORN OVER FIFTY YEARS ago, the Flash and Circle of Mosley's British Union still flies high above the Suffolk countryside, proudly proclaiming the faith of old comrade RONALD CREASY as in its shadow in October 'sunlight at his home at Eye, he reflects on 'the past and future' on the 80th anniversary of his birth.



We asked the 'evergreen Creasy' - in the words of a comrade - for his thoughts at that particular moment of time, and we publish them to mark the occasion, and as a salute for the years of his steadfast loyalty to Mosley.

THE comment 'evergreen' might have double interpretation. Green of character, or as green as conifers, apt to thrive by deep rooting in churchyard and cemetery. I have chosen a spot under a yew tree by a path frequented by my parents and respected employees, now more closely to the earth of inseparable essence.

The question is - if the mind is not matter, it has no birth or death; unaware of Certificate or stamp put on an envelope. The man who said 'Let my mortal remains be buried in a quiet spot, with-

out stone to mark the spot' knew the meaning of eternal time, its vision and compass of the stars. Mosley knew the meaning of this and thus grew older without growing old. He was 'evergreen'.

We salute, as with other great men, his guidance and continuing presence.

I long ago discovered a man can feel ninety at twenty and twenty at ninety. Depends on how you throw the dice as much as where it falls. Time being timeless, birthdays are but another vanity of man. Our submergence into life, over which we have no control, equates with our exit. If the mind is allowed or encouraged in its strength, it rules the body, providing many safeguards. If the body is all-

owed to rule the mind, it becomes a poor benefactor, lost in the realm of implausible expectation.

While we can, on with the good work. The strength of the eternal circle. The flash incarnate. **RONALD CREASY**

● Ronald Creasy was British Union District Leader for the Eye Parliamentary District and later Prospective Parliamentary Candidate. In 1938, as Blackshirt was voted on to Eye Borough Council.

Until 1931, his family held extensive lands in Norfolk since the 13th century, and had an interest in more than eighty farms in Norfolk and Suffolk.

Published for Friends of O.N. by John Christian
101, Orwell Court, Pownall Road, London, E8 4PP

In Memoriam

"Hark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages"

- BAILEY, Denis:** Blackshirt Cadet Clapham Br: adopted son BU Inspector Peter Symes: casualty 31 AA Coy RE(TA) Munich crisis. **October 1938**
- BURN, Andy:** RFC 1914-18: BU 1933-40: 18B political prisoner 1940: UM 1948-76. **31 October 1976**
- CLARK, Ernest:** British Union Cty. Prop. Officer, Durham. **October 1937**
- DESMOND, John Patrick, CIH KIH MIE (Ind):** Superintendent Eng. (Rtd) PWD Central Provinces, India. Worthing British Union. **11 October 1938**
- DICK, Colin Pomeroy:** BU businessman NHQ Br: 18B political prisoner: arrested after returning nearly 500 servicemen from Dunkirk in his machine-gunned motor launch 'Advance' **22 November 1953**
- DODS, C.W. 'Bill':** S/Croydon Br. BU: UM Accounts Inspector 1950, and Sydenham Branch. At Sidmouth, Devon. **12 October 1984**
- FALLS, Norah nee PEARSON:** BU and UM Bournemouth. **October 1949**
- FELDWICK, L.L.:** W/Lewisham BU. Ex RAP: age 27. **October 1938**
- GOWING, Horace:** Derby BU, 18B political prisoner: on release founder Sons of St. George: UM: from TB contracted Walton Jail and Ascot Concentration Camp: Age 30. **November 1949**
- GREENFIELD, Edward George:** N/London early Blackshirt: 79. **October 1989**
- GRUNDY, Marion:** wife of Leslie, BU D/L & Inspector Huddersfield. **22 October 1989**
- HILDERSLEY, Albert:** St. Marylebone Union Movement. **October 1948**
- HORSFIELD, Frank:** Blackburn Blackshirt: motor cycle accident on way to meeting. **11 October 1937**
- LING, Bob:** BU D/L Ealing: 18B political prisoner: S/London Union Movement: after long illness bravely bourn. **9 October 1975**
- LYNN, Jack:** Harrow British Union after D/L Newcastle-on-Tyne. **October 1938**
- MAIN, Miss Christian:** Lochearnhead, Perth: devoted UM supporter. **November 1965**
- MANICO, Dorothy:** Womans D/L Chichester BU: wife of D/L Captain F.E. Manico. **12 November 1949**
- MARENDAZ, Captain D.M.K.:** NHQ Branch British Union & member, BUF Automobile Club: 18B political prisoner: RFC spotter first tank battle Cambrai 1917: Brooklands racing driver and creator of prodigious Marendaz Special record breaker: proprietor flying training school. **6 November 1988**
- MENDHAM, F.W. 'Freddy':** BU D/L Hackney: 18B political prisoner: UM Org. Hackney South. **November 1960**
- O'DONOGHAN, Rose:** wife of our old comrade Pat. **27 November 1986**
- PACKER, Charlie:** UM Accountant 1948-85: Mayor of Bexley 1978-9. **27 November 1985**
- PARSONS, H.J.:** Aldershot BU: 18B political prisoner: UM. **19 November 1976**
- PRATON, George:** D/L St. Marylebone British Union, 79: **17 November 1989**
- PBBG, Ron:** Islington BU and UM. **October 1987**
- PEEL, Dr. Peter, Ph.D.:** Early Blackshirt and Fl/Lt RAF 1939-46: In California. **October 1988**
- PRATT, Thomas Wilson:** Oldest Wilts. Blackshirt: friend of O.M.s father and grandfather. **2 November 1936**
- REDGRAVE, Ernie:** Inns of Court Regt. WW2: East London market trader & loyal UM supporter and dedicated Mosley man. **October 1989**
- RING, Margaret:** mother of BU A/D/Leader and UMs Eddy Ring, Ilford. **5 November 1938**
- TAYLOR, Edward:** Folkestone British Union. **11 November 1936**
- THOMSON, Alexander R. 'Raven':** Dir. of Policy BU: Ed. 'Action' 1939/40 and 'Union' 1948/55: 18B political prisoner: soldier, writer, philosopher and true comrade and British and European patriot. **30 October 1955**
- TYLER, Francis 'Frank':** Limehouse BU & UM: father of UM's Peter: **5 October 1975**
- VEALE, F.J.P.:** Brighton BU/UM: 'Action/Union' contributor: author of 'Advance to Barbarism' & 'Crimes Discreetly Veiled' **October 1981**
- WALLACE, W. Vivian:** Putney: BU & UM: 18B political prisoner with sister, father and mother. **October 1981**
- WOOSTER, Denis:** Maidenhead BU: Blackshirt funeral followed motorcar accident. **16 November 1934**

OLD COMRADES



OBITUARY

WITH DEEP REGRET we report the deaths of two of Mosley's faithful women supporters.

Cecelia Hoggarth

"Courageous, never wavering and always ready through the difficult years to give unstinted help in the organisation" writes her British Union District Leader of Eye, Suffolk, **Ronald Creasy**. "Fearless and determined in every effort as with the rest of her family. The spirit of her efforts will remain entwined in my memory. She leaves one sister, Patricia Flowerdew in continued support."

● Miss Hoggarth's brother George, who died in 1985, was District Treasurer of Eye, and a Standard Bearer at the July, 1939, Earl's Court meeting. A farm-worker, he had been a lifelong member of the Agricultural Section of the Transport and General Workers' Union.

Muriel Marsh



Bethnal Green 1949

A member before the war of British Union, **MISS MURIEL MARSH** was in at the start of Union Movement, one of its most active women supporters.

At London Mosley Dinners in the 1970's, little would younger members think, that the grey-haired older lady at the top table had once, with unflinching courage, continually faced at sales pitches, marches and meetings, the organised tuggery that tried, unsuccessfully, to drive the new Movement off the London streets.

In that Union, unique to Mosley's men and women, we say: 'Farewell old comrades'. With a sigh, for we loved them too.

COMRADE

NEWSLETTER OF FRIENDS OF O.M.

NO.27.

JANUARY 1991

"The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow"



'Blackshirts and Roses'

Review of John Charnley's autobiography fuels British Union political prisoners missing personal files scandal

"...papers relating to Mr.Charnley's detention no longer exist"

Home Office Minister John Patten: 22 August 1988

"...believes that the relevant files do exist and will show that "a very heavy hand was laid on these internees"

Ronald Fearn MP: Liverpool Daily Post 6 August 1990

Where lies truth?

MINISTER OR MP

By JOHN CHRISTIAN

A REMARKABLE ADMISSION by MP Ronald Fearn in the Liverpool Daily Post suggests that the 188 file of the wartime imprisonment without charge or trial of the late John Charnley probably does exist, despite him being told shortly before his death two years ago by Home Office Minister John Patten that it had been destroyed.

Mr.Fearn's remarks were quoted in the paper's extensive review of the recently published Charnley autobiography, 'Blackshirts and Roses', which tells in its foreword, as reported in August/September Comrade, of

John's attempt in the last year of his life, to clear his name 'of any suggestion of potential traitorous behaviour', and of Mr.Fearn's part in referring his case to the Minister.

What is remarkable about Mr. Fearn's statement is that it appears to suggest a massive Home Office cover up. That the Minister's statement on the Charnley file were untrue, and begs the question why did the

Gulf: When it really started

1947:Nov 30. The U.N. General Assembly set the stage for an Arab-Jewish war yesterday when it voted to partition Palestine and set up a Jewish state, an Arab state and a separate regime for the city of Jerusalem.....Palestine's Jewish leaders are jubilant, though they have no intention of observing the strict limits on immigration called for by the U.N.
[Chronicle of the 20th Century]

MP's bid to clear Charnley's name

CHARNLEY'S last years were spent in an unsuccessful attempt to clear his name of treachery towards his country.

In April 1988 he wrote to Southport MP Ronnie Fearn for help in tracing wartime records listing him as a risk to the nation's security.

As one of 800 Mosley supporters detained during the war, he believed that no just cause of imprisonment had been shown and desired an retrospective pardon from the Government.

But after applying to the Public Records Office at Kew he was told that the records of his detention and tribunal hearings had been destroyed.

Mr Fearn took up Charnley's case with the Home Office, and believes that the relevant files do exist and will show that "a very heavy



Ronnie Fearn

hand was laid on these internees." Charnley's chances of a posthumous pardon appear slim.

The Home Office has told Mr Fearn that as Charnley was imprisoned without conviction, there is no offence for which he can be pardoned.

Liverpool Daily Post 6 August 1990



COMRADE August/September 1990



COMRADE March 1987

MP not tell John Charnley?

An MP's duty is surely more than being a messenger boy between his constituent and a Government department. If he believed the executive were, by false statement, withholding evidence which might be vital to his constituent's case, should not he have continued to press for justice, not only on behalf of his constituent, but in the national interest, an ethic which is supposedly inherent in the democratic process?

John Charnley died four months after these events, which was fortunate for all participants - except John Charnley. His quest to right a grave injustice should have died, with him, a quiet death, but they did not allow for John Charnley, a fighter not

Turn to Page 2

SPECIAL EDITION

Friends of O.M.
Annual Report
and Review

OUR BLACKSHIRT DEAD

One more of Mosley's young men of the 1930s, joins British Union's Roll of Honour, his death discovered in our quest to bequeath to posterity the true story of the splendour of their sacrifice, nobility of their cause.

Their honour besmirched by unscrupulous politicians whom they dwarfed in death, their example will forever live as the quality of sacrifice in the true Patriotism.

Sgt. Pilot Peter Grant

THREE WEEKS after passing out of RAP 102 Squadron Heavy Conversion Unit at Pocklington, Yorks., 22-year old Peter Grant was piloting Halifax W7911 in a night raid on Mannheim, his third operation. Posted missing, he was later found to have crashed in France.

He died on almost his fourth anniversary of joining British Union's Ealing Branch, a clerk and former student of journalism. His recruiter was Maurice, one of Ealing's five Bruning brothers.

When war came, with a bought duplicator he edited a Branch newsletter Digest to keep members informed. A colleague edited another, Focus, for Acton Branch until April 1940 when they both joined the Services.

For Peter it was RAP training in Canada, but for his fellow-editor it was incarceration without charge or trial in a British concentration camp after his arrest at his Army unit a few weeks after enlistment.

One ponders on the last thoughts of the young Peter as he fought the losing battle to nurse his charge back to the England he loved, for whom in the cause of duty he was soon to die.

Did the laughing faces of his Ealing Blackshirt comrades fleetingly appear to warm and nourish the final seconds - his editor friend - his District Leader Bob Ling and Guy Bruning, all in British concentration camps, and Guy's brother Clement, four months dead in a German concentration camp?

Was the last living sound before the reverberations of the crashing Halifax and the silence of the dead, the poignant whisper of "WHY"?

British Union
ROLL OF HONOUR
1939 1945

"What though we ourselves
are smitten,
This, our faith can never
die!"

BORTONSHAW, Fl/Sgt. D.F.

RAP (VR):156 Sqdn:killed in action Berlin op. January 3 1944:Age 20:Brighton Br British Union: name inscribed Air Force Memorial Runnymede.

GRANT, Sgt P.A.J.: RAP (VR): 102 Sqdn:missing Mannheim operation December 6 1944 age 22: Ealing Branch British Union: buried Abbeville Communal Cemetery, France.

1 Where lies truth?

only to the end, but beyond, for he now fights on from the grave. He fights not just for posthumous justice for himself, but for over 700 of his British Union comrades, the majority now dead, who were also imprisoned as 'potential traitors', and whose files are officially 'destroyed', a scandal first highlighted in *Comrade* of March 1987.

We can now report after seeing Charnley's private papers, that after the events described in his book, and the last letters from his MP and the Minister, he addressed a final letter to Ronald Heard asking "Why not come and see me...or is this too much to expect?". He protested that "Both yourself and John Patten seem to have completely misread my purpose in my writing to you. I did not ask for a pardon. How could I? I had broken no law. I am asking for restitution of my character and good name. I did no more than Chatham, Charles James Fox, Lloyd George, and Leaders of the Parliamentary Labour Party had done in the past, and their characters were not impugned nor were they arrested as potential traitors. The 'Petition of Human Rights' covers more than pardoning a conviction. It also allows for restitution of dignity to those unjustly deprived of it, and this can only be achieved by Parliamentary action. Hence my appeal to you as my duly elected representative".

He continued: "My intransigence has always been compounded of honesty and truth, and is as evident today, even though I am an invalid and confined to a wheelchair. The body may be weak, but the spirit still burns and will not be quenched. I do not intend to die in silent obscurity, and copies of my correspondence will still be tangible evidence of my efforts to clear my name from the foul imputation of traitorous behaviour."

I was arrested and detained on a flimsy roneoed paper which stated that 'the Home Secretary had reasonable cause to believe', that I was a security risk and that he therefore exercised his right to detain me. No justification or evidenced proofs were ever forthcoming. In consequence thereto I am providing you with a unique opportunity of being first in the parliamentary field in this cause for character rehabilitation. All it requires as a first step is a question in the House.

Are you prepared to take it?" Mr. Pearn did not answer the letter, nor did he visit the old wheelchair-bound Blackshirt before he died. A recent letter asking him to confirm his quoted views on the Charnley file for publication

1990 'Blackshirts and Roses'

THE FIRST
published
autobiography,
since the birth of
Mosley's BUF in 1932,
of one of his early
Blackshirts.

We montage reviews
of John Charnley's
life story

From Blackshirts to top businessman

Liverpool Daily Post
Me 6 August 1990 of Mosley to be

stirred by
fascist book

by Matthew Kelly

THE memoirs of an ex-Blackshirt and top businessman, John Charnley, who was a leading figure in the BUF in the 1930s, are being published in a new edition.

by JOANNE COOKE

A FASCIST who grew up in a Leeds orphanage, went on to address political meetings all over the UK, and was imprisoned as a 'traitor' in the Isle of Man during the war years has just had his bizarre story published.

John Charnley was Oswald Mosley's right-hand man in the years leading up to World War Two and could claim to be one of the BUF's most successful members in the UK. Charnley died two years ago aged 78 and his autobiography will be in the bookshops from September.

A high-ranking member of the British Union of Fascists, the 78-year-old man was devoted to Mosley and was said to be a close confidante of the BUF leader.

Charnley's story is told in his own words in 'Blackshirts and Roses', a book which is being published by the BUF.

Right up until his death, Charnley fought to clear his name, repeatedly writing to the Home Office and demanding that the due be held open for him.

Charnley's story is told in his own words in 'Blackshirts and Roses', a book which is being published by the BUF.

THE FRONT PAGE story of of Sgt. Pilot PETER GRANT, his life in British Union, and his death in the RAF, became possible because of the article on Ealing Blackshirts in the August / September *Comrade*.

Our contributor WILLIAM PARSONS would appreciate any information that readers might have on further members of Ealing BU Branch. [Ed]

in *Comrade* has not been acknowledged.

Will Ronald Pearn, OBE, now have the courage of his convictions and take that first step in the House to obtain posthumous justice for his constituent?

As Charnley said in a previous letter to him: "What have

(A testimony of his life long support of British Union of Fascists leader Oswald Mosley. a compelling documentation of one man's lasting commitment...) Liverpool Daily Post
(A vivid picture of working-class England in the 1930s and early '30s) Isle of Man Examiner

Living in a fascist dream...

Ormskirk Advertiser
23 August 1990

JOHN CHARNLEY is

presented by many as the man who ran the South West Lancashire Chapter of the British Union of Fascists in the 1930s. It is said that he was a close friend of Mosley.

to be published next month.

'Blackshirts and Roses' was first suggested by Mosley more than 20 years ago. It was a book which was to be a vivid picture of working-class England in the 1930s and early '30s.

Orphanage

After leaving school, Charnley had to go to an orphanage. He was one of the first to be sent to the orphanage.

Charnley's story is told in his own words in 'Blackshirts and Roses', a book which is being published by the BUF.



Fascist fought
Isle of Man Examiner
31 July 1990
to clear his name in
Peel camp where
he caused a riot.

Streetfighting years:
Mosley's man 'and I
shall remain so always'

Ormskirk Advertiser
23 August 1990

JOHN CHARNLEY is presented by many as the man who ran the South West Lancashire Chapter of the British Union of Fascists in the 1930s.



War internee's story
of Blackshirt boys



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The Blackshirts in Ealing

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I ask all readers, whether or not they have bought the Charnley book, to order it through their local library to ensure it is read by a wide audience: to acquaint the younger generation, and those yet to come, with the idealism of the Blackshirt struggle for a Greater Britain, and as a tribute to a brave and loyal comrade. [Ed]

you to lose? If you win your name will be engraved in the panels of parliamentary history."

Or will he decline and remain, if history records him at all, as just another, typical of our age, time-serving Member of Parliament messenger boy.

Western Morning News
18 August 1990

Advertisement

'BLACKSHIRTS AND ROSES:
An autobiography by John Charnley'

This hardback book, complete with photographs, tells the full story of a leading Northern Officer of British Union and contains a vivid description of local activities, leading BU personalities, the 'Battle of Cable Street', the 1939 Earls Court Peace Rally and life under 18B detention in World War II.

Price £14.45 (inc. P&P) from:
Brookingsday Publications
27, Old Gloucester Street
London, WC1N 3XX

BUF History 'THOMAS GODMAN, the Receiver, was the son of the Mayor of Gloucester, and a member of Sir Oswald Mosley's British Union of Fascists....'

The Automobile: April 1990

Mosley's airmen and racing drivers

Hampton postscript

My feature on Hampton cars continues to produce a healthy postbag, the latest letter being received from John Christian, the Editor of 'Comrade', newsletter of the Friends of Oswald Mosley. In case it might be thought that what follows is in any way intended to be an endorsement of 'Mr. Christian's' (or Sir Oswald Mosley's) fascist views, I must make it quite clear that they are abhorrent to me. The letter is interesting, however, in that it throws some light on motoring personalities in the thirties.

The letter was prompted by my reference to Thomas Godman, the Receiver of the Hampton company, and 'Mr. Christian' points out that although Godman was later a member of the British Union of Fascists, he would not have been in 1931 since they were not founded until October

1932. No doubt, however, Mr. Godman's views were already formed by 1931, particularly since Mussolini's views had been expounded in British magazines like 'English Life' from 1924 onwards. Godman was also a member of the Gloucestershire Blackshirt Flying Club, and 'Mr. Christian' has a photo of him in uniform with two other of the club's leaders.

'Mr. Christian' asks if I am privy to Captain D.M.K. Marendaz's long and distinguished life — obviously he did not read my feature on Marendaz in the May 1985 issue. Marendaz was an enthusiastic supporter of Mosley and a member of the BUF's National Headquarters Automobile Club. My feature mentions his wartime internment (it was at Ascot) for his fascist sympathies.

Apparently a number of racing drivers were attracted by Mosley's British Union, and 'Mr. Christian' mentioned Mrs. Douglass Duff (who also held an air pilot's licence), Miss Fay

Taylor (who he describes as possibly Britain's finest driver) and a Lancashire man named W. G. Barlow. All were apparently imprisoned under the wartime 188 Defence Regulation. 'Mr. Christian' indicates that Sir Malcolm Campbell was also a frequent visitor to the BUF's NHQ, although he does not suggest that he was a member. He does point out, however, that on 7th March 1935 when creating the land speed record, Campbell carried the pennant of the BUF's Volunteer Transport Service. Such pennants, and the badge of the BUF's Automobile club are now eagerly sought by collectors, but 'Mr. Christian' is incorrect when he states that Campbell was at Daytona and the record was 301.12 mph. The latter figure was not achieved until August 1935, at Bonneville.

Automobile
August 1990

More on Hampton

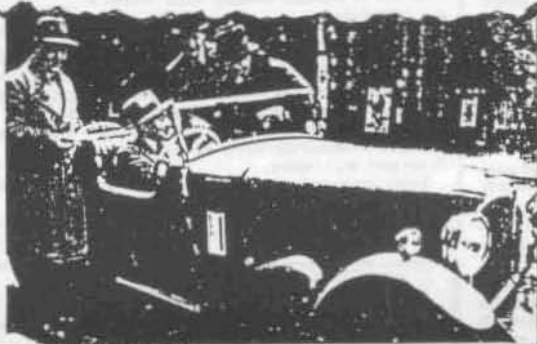
I think the Hampton feature has provoked more correspondence than any other one-make history I have ever attempted in *The Automobile*, and interesting feed-back is still being received. From the historian of the British Union of Fascists, who received it from a reader in Australia, comes a further snippet concerning Thomas Godman, the Receiver who managed Hampton's affairs in the early thirties. He was remembered as an important man in the Cheltenham branch of the BUF, who dabbled in motorcars and aeroplanes, and was always to be seen around the Black House (the BUF NHQ in Chelsea) in the early thirties. He was apparently nicknamed 'Georgie of the West'.

Automobile
November 1990

The fascist connection

The Professor Low article continues to provoke a healthy correspondence from readers, as does the Hampton article, particularly concerning the activities of the fascist Receiver Thomas Godman, under whose direction the company spent its final days. Conveniently linking the two articles is this photograph sent in by John Shaw, Registrar of the Marendaz Special Register, showing both Captain D.M.K. Marendaz (a gentleman of pronounced right wing persuasions) and Professor Low, together with John Sawyer FRGS, with the Marendaz Special in which the latter driver traversed Africa and Eritrea in 1932.

The late Michael Sedgwick confirmed to John that Marendaz was not only friendly with Oswald Mosley, but also with Reich Marshall Goering, and was apparently shown over a Luftwaffe airfield just fourteen days before war was declared. Marendaz's Barton Airfield was



taken over by the Air Ministry at the commencement of hostilities, and on one of the Captain's visits he was caught photographing RAF installations, and was threatened with imprisonment. He was, of course, later interned — apparently at Ascot, although John had always thought it was on the Isle of Man. John wonders if the Gloucestershire Blackshirt Flying Club I previously men-

tioned could have been based at Staverton airport?

Some years ago, Peter Mitchell of British Motor Industry Heritage Trust asked me to see if I could find any proof that S.S. Cars Ltd., had advertised in any British fascist magazines during the thirties. We all know, of course, that the name S.S. was dropped after WW II, for obvious reasons. Well, John Christian, the histori-

Left: Captain D. M. K. Marendaz (standing left), John Sawyer (at the wheel) with Professor Low (standing right) and the Marendaz Special which Sawyer drove across Africa and Eritrea in 1932.

an of The Friends of Oswald Mosley, confirms that a series of classified advertisements did appear in the Blackshirt in 1936.

Headed 'Fascists Need Fast Cars' the ad. read as follows: 'A well-known manufacturer of British fast sports cars is prepared to give to the election fund 5% of purchase price on all cars new or secondhand bought by fascists. For obvious reasons the name of the manufacturer must remain anonymous. For details write to Box 530, Sanctuary Press Ltd., Sanctuary Buildings, Great Smith Street, Westminster. I wonder if it was S.S. Cars Ltd.?'

Automobile December 1990

Echoes of a People's courage—Witness to a Nation

1940: The men they jailed



COMRADE

October/November 1990

Correction

DONALD
MARENDAZ

WE ARE INDEBTED to John Shaw, Registrar of the Marendaz Special Register, for pointing out that we were in error in describing Captain D.M.K. Marendaz as South African born in our last issue.

Mr. Shaw tells us that he 'of Swiss origins, his ancestors came to live in South Wales in the 18th century. He was born at Margam in Glamorgan and was educated at Ross on Wye Grammar School. He was very proud of his British nationality.'

Delighted to put straight the record on Captain Marendaz, who readers will noted has infiltrated elsewhere on this page.

Proud to be British. Ah, what memories it conjures up.

New Year Greetings to our readers

*Christmas is the Birth of
New Year is the Fight
The Future is the Triumph*

Blackshirt
December 1994

His words and spirit
The Triumph



Our archive pictures show [above], Leaders of Gloucester Flying and Gliding Club, 1934, J.B. Logan, Thomas Godman, and A.E. Neale. Members of the Club [below] march to a flying trip



Manchester Social postponed - We will be back

We always come back

WE APOLOGIZE to all our northern friends for the last minute postponement of the Buffet in Manchester in September. We were able, with one exception, to contact all who had booked, thus preventing wasted journeys.

The venue was cancelled at 24 hours notice by the hotel owner following the rubbish that appeared in the northern *Jewish Gazette*, the only accurate information being the hotel and date.

Interviewed by the Editor, who was resident in the hotel, the owner stated that his hotel had for four been subject to bomb threats and his staff subjected to physical threats because of the booking, and that safety of hotel and staff was the priority.

Although the Editor was prepared to welcome arrivals as his guests in his apartment, it was felt that in the circumstances, FOM would not subject the hotel and staff to further harassment.

A further consideration was that our Manchester associate who had booked the venue, had been visited earlier in the week by Special Branch and informed that 'the news had leaked' to the opposition and there was likely to be 'hostile demonstrations', a view they also submitted to the hotel owner. Although FOM are not inexperienced in such matters, it was felt, that as a number of our guests would be elderly, we would not subject them on that occasion to such harassment.

The Special Branch's 'hostile demonstrators' did not appear although the editor and Manchester friends were present to meet them. The only hostility was a further bomb hoax at the scheduled time of the Social, necessitating a police search of the hotel.

Representations were afterwards made to Chief Constable Sir James Anderton, pointing out the dubious role of Special Branch in the affair, given the criminal background of some informants. He has agreed to examine those aspects 'which concern or effect the police.'

The *Jewish Gazette* and another paper were also persuaded to publish some retraction of the disinformation previously published. **We'll be back.**

Comrade

WITH THIS ISSUE 'Comrade' ends its 5th. year. A free newsletter funded entirely by voluntary donation, it started just as an information sheet it has expanded to a journal that is respected in areas beyond Friends of O.M.

In 1991 it will remain a free journal but would remind our readers who kindly send New Year donations, of the ever increasing postal and production costs.

FASCISTS THREAT AT SEMINAR

THE Fascist British National Party is staging a major 'Holocaust Seminar' in Manchester on Sunday. The police say it can't be stopped.

The organisers are the 'Friends of Mosley' and speakers include John Warburton, a Mosley bodyguard during the 1960s. Copies of 'The Holocaust News' will be sold, and revisionist ideas discussed.

Details of the private meeting at the Mitre Hotel were discovered by a local investigator for Searchlight, the anti-Fascist magazine, who tape-recorded a telephone conversation with a BNP member.

Joe Nathan, Jewish Representative Council President, has approached the police to see if the event came under the 'incitement to hate' clause of the Race Relations Act.

But a police spokesman said because the meeting was private they could not intervene unless a breach of the peace occurred and a complaint was made.

Police believe the Friends of Mosley may be an off-shoot of the

League of St. George which has also used the Mitre Hotel. Members are of 'quite mature years' and knew Mosley in the 1930s.

A police spokesman said: 'enquiries are continuing at a very, very high level. I can assure you whatever else our investigations turn up there will be a police presence available on Sunday, to ensure there will not be a problem from the Mitre.'

European MP Gary Titley was incensed when told of the event by the *Jewish Gazette*. It was he said, an attempt to rewrite history just as Goebbels had, and 'a deliberate attempt at incitement because it comes hard on the heels of the cemetery desecrations.'

'People should make their feelings pretty well felt,' added Mr. Titley.

A group of Jewish and non-Jewish anti-Fascists will monitor the situation during the weekend as they believe many Mosleyite sympathisers will be in town.

Jewish Gazette
14 September 1990

HOLOCAUST MEETING CANCELLED

LAST Sunday's proposed Fascist 'Holocaust seminar' at the Mitre Hotel, Manchester was cancelled by the licensee.

He decided the meeting 'wasn't suitable for his premises. He was made fully aware of the situation,' a police spokesman said.

About 70 people had been due to attend the event organised by a National Front Party group named the Friends of Mosley.

The police spokesman said: 'The licensee was in no doubt, not only of the nature of the meeting, but of the circumstances which might arise so he decided that having it was not a good idea.'

Joe Nathan, Jewish Representative Council president, believed the meeting was cancelled by the Fascists through lack of support and because they had learned of a possible counter-demonstration by anti-Fascists.

Mr. Nathan added: 'I am prepared to co-operate with any anti-Fascists who were actively put down the extreme right-wing.'

Jewish Gazette
21 September 1990

Fascists forced to abandon meeting

TOP-RANKING fascists had to call off a secret Manchester summit on Sunday after a last-minute up-off by police.

Right-wing extremists were planning to meet at a city-centre hotel, but abandoned their conference - as the Holocaust and the 'Jewish question' - after details leaked to officers from Special Branch.

They told staff at the Mitre Hotel, who immediately cancelled the booking.

Thirty-five people, including a one-time personal bodyguard of fascist leader Sir Oswald Mosley, were expected to attend.

Jewish leaders had called for a ban on the meeting but police told them they were powerless to stop it.

A spokesman for Searchlight, the anti-fascist magazine, said the party was trying to extend its power-base from Yorkshire, where they recently went ahead with a meeting for 80 members.

Last week's planned meeting was organised by a group called Friends of Mosley.

Manchester Metro-News
21 Sep 1990

John is a Friend of Mosley

● JOHN Warburton, a life member of the National Union of Journalists, has asked us to point out that the meeting planned to take place at the Mitre Hotel which was thought to have been organised for the British National Party was, in fact, booked by the Friends of Oswald Mosley, (which we did report in our story).

● Mr Warburton said the purpose was to launch a newly published autobiography by a deceased member and not to hold a Holocaust seminar. Mr Warburton, a Council member of the Friends of Mosley says his group has no links with the NP, or the British National Party.

Jewish Gazette
12 October 1990



Reason for our meeting

I REFER to your story (September 21) of the gathering that had been arranged at the Mitre Hotel on September 16.

It was not a 'secret right-wing summit on the Holocaust and the Jewish question', but a social buffet on behalf of Friends of Oswald Mosley with whom I am associated.

It had been advertised in our journal 'Comrade' for two months and was a repeat of a similar function a year ago, with the added purpose that a publishing firm's representatives were to be present to promote the recently-published autobiography of one of our deceased associates.

FOM were not associated and are not.

linked with the British National Party or other organisation.

The function was cancelled by the hotel proprietor because of bomb threats and physical harassment of his staff by criminal elements. The 'advice' given by Special Branch to the owner leaves much to be desired.

Friends of OM does not hold public meetings or recruit members, and is not politically active. Its main purpose is to expose the falsehoods built up on Mosley and his men.

John Warburton
Manchester Metro-News
19 October 1990

LETTERS

EVEN our contributors are well informed! We reprint the letter used a year ago in *Comrade*. Our contributor an early Blackshirt and World War 11 paratrooper.

WE THANK our anonymous paratrooper for the photograph of ex-Blackshirt FRED YEATMAN's grave at Oosterbeek War Cemetery, Arnhem.

He writes: 'We read about comrade Yeatman. [Comrade August/September 1990]. We called on him and gave him a small + with poppy - 1950s Para'

The inscription reads: 927243 S.Sgt. P.J. Yeatman, Glider Pilot Regiment, Army Air Corps, 24-25th September 1944, Age 28.

GOOD NIGHT DEAR FRED
PLEASE GOD IT WILL SOON BE
GOOD MORNING

THATCHER OUT?

Signs are pointing strongly to a tumultuous start to the 1990s in Britain. The covertly controlled press, radio and visual media, are gradually but inexorably moving public opinion away from Tory Government responsibility towards an antipathy to what is called 'Thatcherism', as the International Finance dictators systematically and subtly dominate the British. Only nominal efforts will be made, although highly publicised, to ameliorate the discontent.

In fact subtle stirring will continue, underlining the fault as being: NOT Parliamentary (least of all the Financial System) or Parties, but that of the so-called 'Iron Lady' herself.

Nothing new in this tactic. However, when viewed against the international political manoeuvres insofar as we are allowed to perceive, to discard Margaret Thatcher seems the likely ploy.

Robert Richard Northumberland
Comrade February/March 1990

'W' E HAVE a higher percentage of women candidates than any other party in this country and they play a part of basic equality. We are pledged to complete sex equality.....my Movement has been largely built up by the fanaticism of women; they hold ideals with a tremendous passion. Without women I could not have got a quarter of the way."

Mosley during interrogation in 1940: H0283/13 PRO Kew

ONE OF THOSE WOMEN

FOREVER MOSLEY

When I read the article by Bill Dods in "Comrade" last year, it reflected in some way my feelings the day that Mosley died.

I was so sad and had no one to talk to. So I penned my thoughts. Though not wonderful verse, they are straight from the heart.

The day we heard that Mosley died, a part of us died too. What a wonderful Leader this land might have had, If the many had followed the few.

He could have had an easy life, instead he chose to fight:

For the good of dear old England, Its people to unite.

But time was running out; the war came to intervene. If that had never happened, who knows what might have been.

Maybe others yet unknown will and the struggle started long ago. And reap the harvest from the seeds we set to grow.

As we give a last salute, and say a sad farewell, We say "God Bless you Mosley", in our hearts you will ever dwell"

Glad Walsh

Clacton

COMRADE April/May 1990

MRS. GLADYS WALSHE, of Clacton, Essex. A former member of Limehouse B.U., she has been assisting by her memories, a young student research British Union, East London before the war. "He tells me that he often walks through Duckett Street, (former headquarters) to recreate 'atmosphere' of the thirty's" she said.

One treasured memory, the 1945 Reunion organised by the 108 Detainees Fund at the Royal Hotel, Holborn, "when we met the Leader and Lady Diana for the first time since the war, and they and many others signed my programme".

We too remember old friend

COMRADE April 1987

December 6th 1990

Clacton Hospital

My Dear Friends,

Although we have never met, we are all friends of Mosley.

This is a letter of farewell. I have been here for two weeks and have inoperable cancer. I am going to Colchester to have an operation to stop my jaundice, and then brought back here until the end.

Thank you for making my last few years happier by sending me Comrades.

In Union,
Glad Walsh

With this last moving letter from our very brave old comrade, we publish in her memory, her contributions to Comrade over the last four years. Her words we feel tell more than we can do, and fully justify the faith that Mosley had in his Blackshirt women.

After Christmas, Glad Walsh sent telephoned New Year's Greetings to the editor and all friends of O.M. Four days later she passed on.

The Spirit Lives

We do not know if these lines from the pen of an old British Union member - (see 'Old Comrades' back page) - have any poetic merit. For those who were present at the Royal Hotel, Holborn in 1945, they will however bring back many memories, and for those younger generations taking up the Mosley ideal, show the quality of a greater love that he inspired in those he led.

REUNION

THRO'six weary years of trouble and war,
We went our way bravely, tho' our hearts were sore.
Our members were scattered, and crowds went inside,
Everyone said our Movement had died.

But prisons were too small to hold us all,
And those of us outside, heard the call;
We rallied together whenever we could,
And to see dear old faces was certainly good.

One person tho' was missed by us all
Tho' his voice and his features we all could recall;
And so we went on, and hoped for the best
When the one that we missed would be with the rest.

At last came the day, awaited so long
When you, our dear Leader joined in the throng:
I know I'll remember, all thro' my life,
When Sir Oswald Mosley came in with his wife.

The speech that he gave us, made all things worthwhile;
Prison had certainly not cramped his style;
And although we gave them little respite,
We knew they were glad to be with us that night.

The evening once over, we went on our way,
Our thoughts were no longer empty or grey.
We'd seen our Leader, he'd given us cheer,
The first that we'd had for many a year.

Now since in the common, there's lots being said
About 'British Union', they all thought was dead:
Why all the trouble? why all the fuss,
Whatever they say won't intimidate us:

So "God bless you Mosley", in all that you do,
"God bless you and keep you, your dear wife too:
And as I go through life, I will always be proud
That I was allowed to be one of the crowd.

COMRADE April 1987 Gladys Walsh

OLD COMRADE

It is always a red letter day for me when COMRADE comes through the letter box, especially reading the exploits of my old Limehouse District Leader ARTHUR MASON with whom I exchange a card and letter at Xmas.

As one gets older and near the end of our life, we realize how right we were. To have lived and known such a wonderful Leader as "MOSLEY". I wouldn't have lived at any other time, even to be young again.

My greatest pleasure in life is to look back on those days, and live them over again in memory.

My thoughts be with you all on May 6th.

Mrs G. Walsh Clacton

As Glad Libbiter, Mrs. Walsh joined British Union's Limehouse Branch as a non-active member a few weeks before the 'battle of Cable Street' on October 4th, 1936.

She was so incensed at the lies in the following day's newspapers blaming the Blackshirts for the disorder, when she had seen "Jews and Communists roll marbles under the police horses feet and stuff broken glass up their noses" that she immediately became an active member.

After the outbreak of war and the loss to the armed forces of many of the Branch's young active members, she was asked by former Bethnal Green District Leader Mick Clarke, now a NHQ officer, to take over as District Leader, her acceptance almost landing her inside a British concentration camp.

For come June 1940 and the police came to arrest her they were unlucky for all they found was an obliterated house, hit by a bomb a week before.

COMRADE April/May 1988

LAST POST

These words of Roy Campbell, and her beloved Mosley, which we knew she would understand, were our final words to that noble lady as she awaited the end of her life on earth.

"I love to see when leaves depart,
The clear anatomy arrive,
Winter, the paragon of art,
That kills all forms of life and feeling
Save what is pure and will survive"

"The Spirit Lives!"

The Commemoration Dinner

'My dear old friends and comrades' began Lady Mosley in a message sent to those who packed a London hotel banquet room in November.

Lady Mosley had been unable to make the journey but hoped 'to come next time'.

'In 1990' she said, 'we have seen a united Germany, and many steps taken on the road to united Europe....The historical and logical goal of Europe a Nation is being reached more quickly and certainly than most of us would have dared to hope. The only sorrow is that O.M. is not with us, to see what he he worked so hard for 35 years to bring about, becoming reality'.

Guest of Honour was old comrade **Ronald Creasy**, 80 in October, who spoke of his life in British Union, and while sustaining his own philosophy always felt 'I had much to live up to in the example and thinking of Mosley'. It was a relief to be in such splendid company, and with the honour that has been bestowed, 'I am almost overcome'.

Speeches by 'the regulars', **Dan Barnston** and **Mike Quill** followed, and as last year, **Desmond Irvine**. 'New boy' this year, making his first speech for many years, was former Union Movement Organising Secretary **Keith Gibson** who spoke on an historical basis relating to the early 60s prior to OMs retirement from active party politics.

He reviewed the activities of Union Movement during that period, and of the many discussions he had with **Count Foscari** of the Italian M.S.I. at the Conference of Vienna in 1962, when **Oswald Mosley** persuaded fellow Europeans to meet in the Europa Hotel in the room where composed 'The Ring'.

'Most of the serious books on Mosley and his ideas were written in the context of the world we all knew until just over a year ago' he said. Mosley's great declaration of 'Hold Europe - leave Asia' had only partly been realised, the West holding only a rump of Europe. All this was twenty years ago, and whatever is to come, 'though the communists are still with us, communism is dead. Dialectical materialism is no more.'

The events in eastern Europe will produce a new ball game when historical analyses will be re-written.

'It is our final duty to O.M. that all those that played a part, no matter how small, should again do so.'

OBITUARIES

ARTHUR MARSON

WITH REGRET on December 23, **ARTHUR MARSON**, 71, in Cologne, after recurrence of an old illness.

In the 1930s, a politically conscious young man, he joined **John Charnley's** Hull Branch shortly before the war, British Union being 'the nearest to my political ideas', and was surprised to find himself in 1940 detained under the 188 regulations.

Conditionally released in 1941 to join the Services, he joined the Merchant Navy, but after a week at sea he survived the bombing of his ship by the Luftwaffe, and after arrival back in England he went 'on the run', giving Special Branch a 'merry dance' before putting him back in Peveril Concentration Camp, Isle of Man until 1944.

Shortly after the war he emigrated to Canada, later returning to live in Spain, and then, for last 30 years

in Germany, where even thirty years after the war the British Home Office were instrumental in getting him discharged from his post in an Australian Government office, supplying information from his 188 file on his wartime detention for a security check to root out Soviet 'moles'!

LILIAN WILSON

WE REGRET to report the recent death in Dorset of another former woman Black-shirt, **LILIAN WILSON**.

She was well known in East London where she was a member of the large Bethnal Green North East Branch, like her Black-shirt husband 'Archie' who for many years after the war was in business near Hoxton Market, and will be remembered by many for the entertainment provided by his small Band at Union Movement functions.

We send our deepest sympathy to Archie.

OLD COMRADES



GLAD WALSH

ON December 31 **GLAD WALSH** of Clacton died, three weeks after writing her farewell to the Editor from Clacton Hospital.

A former member of British Union's Limehouse branch, as was her mother **Mrs. Libbiter** who at 101 died in 1973, Glad Walsh died as she lived, in Union with her old comrades.

For her, and in her: The Spirit Lived.

WANTED

FASCISM: 100 Questions Asked and Answered by **Oswald Mosley**: Box RR125 12, Mulberry Close, London, E4

In Memoriam

"Hark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages"

ADAMSON, John: former 2nd Bn. Durham Lt. Inf. South Shields British Union: from heart disease accelerated by wounds in action, and gas Great War: 'died as honourably as if killed in action' said coroner: age 47. December 1934

AITKEN, Andrew: P/O RAF: early British Union member: flying accident Sussex, December 1937

ALLEN, Constance Mary: OBE: former suffragette and co-founder of first women's police force in World War I: Head of Women's Auxiliary Service 1914-1940: Member British Union and Union Movement: Under virtual house arrest in World War II: In December 1944

BADDELEY, John Fraser: Hendon Branch British Union 20 December 1936

BAILEY, Jack: Bethnal Green: British Union and Union Movement: Father of FOM Council members **Fred** and **Sid Bailey**: Age 82: On 19 January 1965

BECKETT, Mrs Joe: wife of former English Heavy Weight Champion **Joe Beckett**: like her husband member of British Union and Union Movement: Political Prisoner Holloway Goal 1940: On 12 December 1952

BIRD, Mr A.J.: former Inspector of Schools Middlesex and Principle Kilburn Poly.: Member Kilburn British Union: In January 1939

BOWLER, Mr A.E.: Ealing British Union & Union Movement: In December 1976

BRAY, Bill: BU D/T Birmingham Central Br.: D/L Handsworth Br.: 188 Political Prisoner: December 3 1988

BROWN, Prof. A.E. MA LLB: former Professor of International Law, Calcutta: Member Cambridge On 6 January 1939

CHARNLEY, John: BU D/L and Parl. Candidate Hull/E: 188 Political Prisoner: Union Movement December 28 1988

COKER, Mrs: British Union and mother of Union Movement Walthamstow Br. Leader **Ernest Coker**: In January 1950

CORBIN, Peter: BU Team/L, speaker Salisbury. January 1981

D'ALESSIO, Ron: First British Union District Leader Plymouth & later of Cheltenham: 188 British political prisoner 1940: On 18 January 1987

DOWDY, Mrs L.A.: wife of **John Dowdy**, British Union Parliamentary Candidate Evesham: In January 1976

DUFFIELD, K.T.: Epping British Union and 188 British political prisoner: In December 1986

ELAM, Dudley: British Union's elderly receptionist at HQ Westminster: British political prisoner 1940 contributing to his death. His wife, **British Union Parliamentary Candidate for Northampton** also jailed in Holloway Goal: In December 1948

FITT, Bill: Epping Branch speaker British Union. On 30 January 1988

FRANCIS-HAWKINS, Nell: Pioneer member later Director-General British Union: Incarcerated Brixton Jail 1940-44 as a political prisoner leading to his early death at 43. On 25 December 1950

GOOD, Ann: BU & Leader's secretary UM. Early 1979

GRANT, of: Shoreditch British Union: father of family of Mosley supporters. In December 1948

HARSELL, Mrs Florence: Bethnal Green British Union & Union Movement: wartime collector 188 Detainees Fund. In December 1950

HILL, W.M.: early British Union member and part founder of Taunton Branch whose two sons also joined Mosley. In January 1938

HOLMAN, Percy: Southampton British Union & Union Movement: following a road accident On 31 December 1977

JERR, Ralph Gladwyn: Explorer, pearl fisherman: BU D/L Salisbury: City Prop. Officer, Wilts: Dist. & Regional Insp. Wessex: Parl. Cand. Dorset West: BU Gold Distinction Award: 188 Political Prisoner: At 87, in Marbella, Spain, 28 January 1978

KITCHEN, Mrs Sabina: Mother of Union Movement's Ken Kitchen of Leamington Spa: A staunch supporter of the Movement. On 8 December 1975

LINLETT, Sidney: East Ham BU: brother of FOM's **John**, E/ham D/T: Severely wounded Italy 1943, East Surrey. December 1986

MARSDEN, Raymond: Manchester UM: December 16 1988

MARTIN, Dorothy: BU and UM: January 1981

PRENTICE, Charles: London BU & UM husband of **Rose**, 1961 UM National Women's Organizer: In Australia. January 1981

PRICE, Catherine Margaret and **Charlie**: Hackney Br. BU and UM: parents of **Len**, Hackney UM D/O and wife **Flo**, both 188 Political Prisoners: Charlie, one of earliest E. London members, awarded Special Badge for Service by OM. January 1952 and January 1955

RAE, H.O.: Walthamstow U.M.: 24 January 1951

ROBERTS, John: Huntingdon, late Ipswich BU & UM: December 1954

SCORE, Mr R.E.: Bournemouth British Union, father of D/L Score. On 13 January 1940

STEWART, Fred: A/D/L Sales, BU, Harrow Branch: 31 December 1936

SUTHERLAND, Mrs M.A.: 'Ma': a loyal Mosley supporter, friend and confidant of many East London British Union members in her Stepney cafe before her retirement to Norfolk. In January 1975

VERDAN ROE, Sir Alliot: Early pioneer flyer and founder of AVRO: lost 2 sons in air ops. World War II. At 80 on 4 January 1958

WARRBURTON, Edmund 'Ned': New Party and British Union Manchester and HQ Branch: Lost eye in 'battle of Stockton-on-Tees' 1933: Pioneer Corps World War II. On 31 December 1984

WILLIAMS, Hugh Ross: 1930s contributor to 'Action' when in Labour Party: Playwright and author of 'Who is for Liberty? A good friend of the Mosley Movements. In January 1978

WOODWARD, Mr L.A.: Dorset West British Union. On 28 January 1939

WYNN, John: Acton Branch British Union & TU activist: age 22. 11 December 1937

WYNN, Mrs. Wallace: BU & UM: December 1954

YEATS-BROWN, Francis DFC: BU HQ Branch: 5th Lancers, Indian Army, Royal Flying Corps: author 'Bengal Lancer'. 19 December 1944

"Patriots: your cry is heeded! Heroes: death was not in vain! We to your place have succeeded, Britain shall be great again!"

Still in spirit with us.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MAY BUFFET

Saturday May 11 1991

COMMEMORATION DINNER

Saturday November 16 1991

● **Keith Gibson** joined Bromley UM Branch as a 17 year-old in 1950 and went into the Mosley Youth Unit. In 1952 he became 'office boy' at NHQ, and later helped run the bookshop. He was appointed East London organiser during **Fred Bailey's** period of London Organiser. In 1962 when

Jeffery Hamm was appointed to the new post of General Secretary, OM asked him to become his Political Secretary. He later became Organising Secretary and finally, O.M. appointed him Chief Election Agent in the 1964 General Election.

COMRADE

NEWSLETTER OF FRIENDS OF O.M.

NO.28.

FEBRUARY/MARCH 1991



"The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow"

IRAQ MOVES UP FAST as a petroleum power with huge reserves:....many fields unexplored, prices may be held down...The Saudis may be joined at the pinnacle of the world of oil. Peace in the Persian Gulf, if it sticks, may elevate Iraq as the new petroleum powerhouse...

Wall Street Journal, 26 August 1988

'Desert Storm' - the War to curtail world oil supply for profit of oil barons and international finance

'OPERATION BRAINWASH'

'GALLANT LITTLE KUWAIT would not count for a row of worry-heads if it produced bananas instead of oil' wrote a well informed writer recently.

Neither would Iraq, apart from consideration of its potential danger to Israel, that carbuncle implanted in what was the Holy Land by the infant United Nations under American pressure after the last war. To be ruled mainly by foreign Jews with expansionist views, in a land where Arabs had lived and progenitured for 3,000 years, and who outnumbered the legal indigenous Jewish people by two to one.

Turn to Page 3

OUR BLACKSHIRT DEAD

One more of Mosley's young men of the 1930s, joins British Union's Roll of Honour, his death discovered in our quest to bequeath to posterity, the true story of the splendour of their sacrifice, nobility of their cause. Their honour besmirched by unscrupulous politicians whom they dwarfed in death, their example will forever live as the quality of sacrifice in the true patriot.

Cpl. Bert Mallinder

'AS WE LIMPED at last into safety, one of the Queens turned to look out over the dark shell-torn country and muttered 'A bastard of a place'.

Yes, 'A bastard of a place! The wadis remained so until the bitter end. Companions, whole battalions had disappeared into their labyrinth.'

[Anzio: Wynford Vaughan-Thomas]

And lost in that maelstrom of shot and shell, with two-thirds of 169th Queen's Brigade, 28-year

old Blackshirt, Cpl. BERT MALLINDER, a member of British Union's largest branch, East London's N/E Bethnal Green.

The Queen's, landed at Anzio with the 56th Infantry Division to join the VI US Corps bridgehead during the German counter-attack were thrown in to counter-attack German gains. Fighting their way through in fierce fighting against a stronger enemy force to relieve the cut-off US 2nd Bn of 157 Rgt. hold-out in caves, they had no supporting weapons and little ammunition left. Attempts were made, without success, to relieve them, and after holding out for several days their forward companies were overrun and survivors ordered to get back best they could. Only a handful got back.

Bert Mallinder was one of a family of Bethnal Green Mosley supporters.

As he died, one wonders if he knew that his first District Leader, Mick Clarke, was in his fourth year of detention without charge or trial in a British concentration camp.

SUEZ: 1950'S ECHO

\$40 million aid to the Egyptian government in 1954, to be varied the following year depending "on how good an investment it turned out to be" is recalled by the death in January - two days before the opening of 'Desert Storm' with the bombing of Baghdad - of **MILES COPELAND**, CIA's former Middle East specialist.

Believing he could be bought, and on Copeland's suggestion, the US State Department, handed to President Gamel Abdul Nasser a further \$3 million for his own use in 'setting up security facilities'.

Turn to Page 2

Pilot Officer Dennis Lucan D.F.M.



"Comrade" October/November 1990

FOLLOWING OUR STORY on Dennis Lucan's death in action over the Kembs Dam in a Lancaster of the RAF's elite 617 Squadron in 1944, we now learn that 15 months earlier, just after his 20th birthday, he had completed a 6-month tour of operations as a Sergeant wireless operator/air gunner with 207 Squadron at Langar, Nottingham, after which he was awarded the D.F.M. [London Gazette 4 Sept 1943]

It would seem that he enlisted into the RAF in the first year of the

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

"What though we ourselves are smitten, This, our faith can never die!"

BROOKER, Gnr. C.G.: 90 Field Regt RA after 18B British Political Prisoner 1940-42: **Exeter Br. British Union:** died on P.O.W. long march 8 March 1945: Remembered on Cassino Memorial, Italy.

FOGG, Pte. James: 1st Bn E/Lancs Regt: **Manchester British Union:** killed in action, Cleve, Germany 11 February 1945: Buried Reichswald Forest War Cemetery: Age 26.

JONES, Capt. F.R.F.: 6th Bn 14th Punjab Regt: **Norwood Br. British Union:** age 22: killed in action Singapore 11 February 1942: Remembered Kranji War Cemetery, Singapore.

MALLINDER, Cpl. Albert D.: 2nd Bn Queen's Royal Regt (West Surrey): age 28: N/E Bethnal Green Branch British Union: killed in action Anzio beachhead 22 February 1944: Remembered Cassino Memorial, Italy.

war when 16. Did he 'fool' his recruiting officers?

We know not, but we do know that his baptism of fire in shot and hail came, not in the RAF, but when a 13-year old Blackshirt Cadet at the bloody Leeds Holbeck Moor Mosley meeting on September 27 1936, when "With drums splashed with blood, with heads and faces bleeding, the Blackshirts marched back into the centre of the city with the same spirit of discipline and order.....as they left for the moor earlier that afternoon" the drums and pipes maintaining "the stirring rhythms of the march, even when the Reds made their most violent attacks.....as with their Leader, and the Union Jack and British Union standards at its head, the 1000-strong column marched proudly back to its headquarters."

● [Blackshirt 3 October 1936]

Baptism of fire for future DFM ➔ 3

1 SUEZ: 1950'S ECHO

Nasser, who had ousted President General Mohammed Neguib after both had deposed King Farouk two years earlier, was not amused. He nevertheless accepted, but the American philosophy, used the 'bribe' to build the imposing Tower of Cairo across the Nile on Gezira Island.

Nasser death contract?

He is also reputed, when operating in Egypt, Lebanon and Syria, where he had previously been American vice-consul in Damascus, to have originated the CIA intrigues that put Nasser in power, although later, in a typical American reversal of policy, was asked by the CIA of a way he could be assassinated.

Having developed a friendship with Col Nasser during 1953-55 when he had 'resigned' from the CIA and represented a management consultant company to advise the President on government on organisation, Miles Copeland claimed in his book, *The Game of Nations*, (1969); that he asked the President's advice on that diplomatic initiative!

A wartime operative of the Office of Strategic Services, the precursor of the CIA, his assistance was sought in setting up the Agency in 1949, and he claimed he was the CIA's 'first political action specialist in the Middle East' and that Syria 'was America's initial venture at interfering in the in-affairs of a sovereign nation.'

Years after his second 'resignation' from the CIA in 1957 he wrote his autobiography and several other books on espionage and became domiciled in England where he was frequently approached by the media for his knowledge of terrorism, on which he was considered an expert, and for his authoritative views on the turbulent Middle East.

Although a friend of the late Egyptian President, at the end of the day he believed that:

'If Nasser faced the choice of keeping power, thus ruining the country, or quitting, he'd keep power.' He also believed that golden handouts achieved better results than the CIA's past machinations in the affairs of sovereign states.

DO YOU REMEMBER ?

2. 'Pam' Valeriani

by PETER MARCY

TWENTYONE GRAYS INN ROAD was the wartime address of the '188 Detainees Aid Fund' but for a much longer period it contained the offices and storeroom of the Fund's remarkable and

How many years before sparks of truth emerge on the current military and economic disestablishment of Iraq by super-power America and alas, its servile British lapdog?

How many bags of gold changed hands. The dirty tricks, the disinformation laid on by the international finance dominated American political system, the Israel lobby in US and Britain with its powerful political and financial influence, and the covert machinations of international oil interests, and in the process dis-established the whole Middle East, now under threat of explosion into a anarchic greater Lebanon.

● In 1956 Nasser nationalised the Suez Canal after US and UK had refused to finance the Aswan high Dam, a project to increase Egypt's cultivable land by more than half, and provide huge supplies of hydro-electric power.

This led to Israel's invasion of Egypt in collusion with Britain and France who then attacked Egypt to 'separate the combatants' and 'keep the Suez Canal open', and, in the view of Prime Minister Sir Anthony Eden, to 'stop Nasser - another Hitler'. Today's 'Hitler', Saddam Hussein of Iraq was not then available as a tyrant to be used for war propaganda purposes.

Within days, the US forced a Suez pull-out by refusing financial aid to the British, required to prevent a total collapse of sterling in world money markets caused by the dubious British military adventure. [Ed.]



courageous landlord, 'Pam' Valeriani, proprietor of 'The Holborn Distributing Company'.

'Pam' was an abbreviation of Espaminondas, and he was proud to have been named after the famous Greek general and statesman who defeated the Spartans and made the city-state of Thebes the leading power of Ancient Greece. Despite his unusual Greek-Italian name, was British-born - at Westminster's St. George's Hospital in 1888. It was on the way to there in a handsome cab that his mother was frightened by an exploding bomb set by the Fenians, the Irish-American secret society, resulting in Pam's distinctive facial birthmark.

His father, a Garibaldi man, opened a delicatessen in Old Compton Street, Soho, and Pam was also to have a cigar shop - he opened one in Piccadilly. He had been a theatrical agent and was briefly married to a music hall artiste before starting his wholesale newsagents business in 1912.

This was originally at 57 Chancery Lane from where Pam - or 'Val', as he was also called by many, distributed newspapers and periodicals throughout Central London, from Notting Hill Gate in the West to Aldgate in the East.

Action was one of the papers he handled in the 1930s and it was thanks to him that it was on sale at many street stands as well as newsagents. His role was particularly important after the sudden ban imposed by the Wholesale Newsagents Federation. The Holborn Publishing Co.'s little tricycle vans resembling ice-cream carts and plastered with placards that advertised such publications as *Action*, *The Patriot*, *The Saturday Review* and *Truth* were a familiar sight, as was his own tiny figure making personal deliveries of *Action*.

When the Aid Fund was established, he immediately offered to provide it with office accommodation, despite the fact that he knew that as a member of Holborn BUF Branch, and a well-known Mosley man, he was himself in constant danger of arrest and imprisonment.

Pam always liked to entertain visitors with a

sort of comic act that produced roars of laughter from friends and foe alike. Among the latter from May 1940 were Special Branch, M15 agents and numerous journalists who - not without reason - regarded 21 Grays Inn Road as a Mosleyite meeting place.

Adverse Press publicity worried Pam not at all. One wall of his office was covered with newspaper stories in which he had been mentioned. His favourite was from the *Daily Mirror*:

"On consulting Scotland Yard regarding this matter our reporter was informed by a spokesman: 'If Valeriani told you that, then it is obviously correct'".

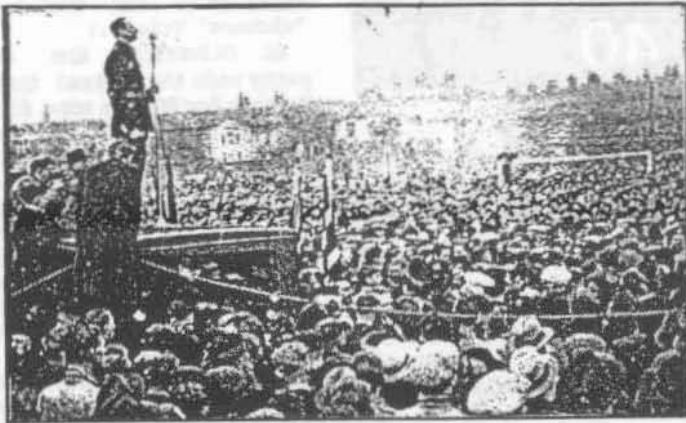
Few of his visitors realized that he had known many famous (and infamous) literary and political figures: Horatio Bottomley, for whom he had distributed *John Bull*, Alfred Orage [*The New Age* and *The New English Weekly*], G.K. Chesterton, [G.K.'s *Weekly* and *The Weekly Review*], Colin Brooks [*Truth*], Douglas Woodruff [*The Tablet*] and Lord Alfred Douglas [*Plain English*], for whom Pam had also appeared in the witness box in the Oscar Wilde case in 1895.

One with whom Pam did 'miss the boat' was Ezra Pound. Thinking that because he was famous he must be rich he wrote and asked if he would like to invest £1000 in the business, to which the poet replied: *"Where the BLUE HELL do you expect ME to get 1000 QUID?"*

Though always primarily a wholesale newsagent, Pam published several important Revisionist books including *Sisley Huddleston's France: The Tragic Years* and *Popular Diplomacy and War*, Rear-Admiral Theobald's *Final Secret of Pearl Harbour*, and Professor Luigi Villari's *Italian Foreign Policy under Mussolini*.

One reason why Pam's office received a constant stream of curious visitors was that one never knew who one would find there. On one occasion after the war, the writer found Pam in animated conversation with two other visitors. One was Count Potocki, claimant to the Polish Throne, dressed in a scarlet cloak, and the other, Colonel David Stirling, the legendary founder of the *Special Air Service* - the *SAS*!

The bloody battle of Holbeck Moor



'the Blackshirts marched back into the centre of the city with the same spirit of discipline and order....as they left for the moor earlier that afternoon'

Left: Mosley speaking at Holbeck Moor to the largest crowd ever seen, police estimate 50,000

Right: Injured Blackshirts receive First Aid



Baptism of fire for future DFM

From Page One

DENNIS LUCAN's former British Union District Leader writes:

Dennis was one of four pals who joined the Black-shirt Cadets about the same time. The other three were Herbert Clark, Peter Bligh and Walter Hutchinson. Herbert and Walter, who was also killed in action in the Army in 1945, were in the first intake of National Servicemen in 1939, and Peter and Dennis, well under 14 when he joined the Movement, were certainly in the Forces by early 1940. They all lived near each other in Leeds Harehills district, Dennis in Karnak Road.

My most vivid recollection of Dennis was at the Holbeck Moor meeting in 1936. The Cadets were not allowed to march because of their youth and the possibility of injury.

During the meeting I was stationed in front of the lorry from which O.M. was speaking when I heard my name called from underneath the lorry. There I found Dennis in civvies with two other schoolboys having a whale of a time. I had my work cut out getting them out of the crowd and to a place of safety.

I give my thanks to Comrade for giving him such a fine coverage. I felt proud to read it.

[In a collective grave at Harehills Cemetery near the young Pilot Officer Lucan's home, lies another young Leeds Blackshirt, Glider pilot instructor Sgt. Pilot Basil Gill was 19 when in 1940 he was detained without charge or trial in a British concentration camp.

On release he took up his duties with RAF (VR) and in 1942, at 22, was killed in a flying accident when instructing a pupil.

Such were Mosley's young men who the politicians of the day, armed with emergency dictatorial powers, falsely and obscenely labelled potential traitors. Ed.]

THEY DO NOT have an answer to the Blackshirt argument, so they do their best to prevent it being heard.'

Oswald Mosley, Leader of British Union, was speaking through a hail of stones and other missiles, many fired from catapults, to the largest audience to attend a public meeting in Leeds, on September 27 1936, the majority listening with wrapped attention, the great sea of faces stretching across the Moor.

Several hundred Reds, imported into Leeds from all over the North, had gathered near the speaker's van, their intention to break up the meeting. Their chantings drowned by the volume of the amplifiers, and unable to break through the Defence Force, they resorted to attacks on Blackshirts isolated in the crowd, several of whom had to receive treatment for their injuries.

Defeated in their objective, the gangs of Reds made repeated attacks on the Blackshirts as they marched back to headquarters.

In fierce fighting in Holbeck Lane and Domestic Street, Blackshirts quickly repulsed furious rushes on their ranks, though many were hit by bricks and stones.

As the march proceeded showers of stones fell on Blackshirts from behind

hoardings and several marchers were badly hit.

A determined attack was made on Mosley and his party as he joined the head of the column, and in fierce fighting on the pavement, he was wounded below the right eye by a stone thrown at close range.

Having tried everything without success to halt the Blackshirt column, they switched their attack, in Sweet Street, to the stoning of an ambulance taking the injured to hospital.

Marching on went the Blackshirts and as they approached the city centre, thousands, many of whom had heard of the violence on the Moor, crowded the pavements to see the Mosley men who once again had met and defeated Red violence on our English streets.

1 Operation Brainwash

From day one of the invasion of Kuwait, it was quite clear from the angry rhetoric of President Bush and Prime Minister Thatcher that they had begun the countdown to war. The venom of their personal attacks on Saddam Hussein, to build him as 'the new Hitler' rang many bells for those who experienced the falsehoods leading to World War II. We had seen it all before. The British and the Americans

had to be persuaded that if all else failed, the deposing of the man more evil than the Devil was a righteous cause, even if casualties should be heavy. President Bush and Mrs Thatcher were determined to have their war and all modern methods of disinformation would be used. The brainwashing had begun.

Space does not permit all the computations of 'reasons for this 'just' war. Aggression? Condemned by China, member of United

Nations Security Council, invader and ravisher of the harmless Tibet, whose spiritual leader the Dalai Lama currently visiting Britain is refused an audience with our British Prime Minister, whose high moral views on aggression and genocide are found wanting in face of causing displeasure to the tyrannic Chinese to whom we have sold the people of Hong Kong.

Turkey, one of America's well-paid 'allies' against

Iraqi aggression hangs on to her occupation of Cyprus, and Israel, with the long backing of America, to occupied Arab lands, the people subjugated to a reign of terror, and a future which includes Israeli plans for the Arab population's total removal from their native lands.

But 'the West' does have a legitimate reason for using force in the Gulf, even if the morality of using



'Peace now before a million lives are lost in an alien quarrel'

Mosley.....May Day 1940

BRITISH UNION had opposed wars before. At the time of the Civil War Mosley had said that the whole of Spain was not worth one drop of British blood.

But by the summer of 1939 British Union was facing the greatest threat to peace. Powerful forces of Left and Right had their own reasons for a war with Germany - a war that was to end with 60-million dead, and the loss of Britain's wealth and Empire.

The Blackshirt position was clear. 'We have fought for Britain before and will fight again if the life of Britain is threatened.'

But not to stop German provinces handed over to Poland in 1938 from returning to their homeland as was their wish. As long as Germany looked East and not West, we should 'Mind Britain's Business', but remain adequately defended - which we were not - for any eventuality.

In July 1939 the Daily Mirror commented: 'There is no doubt that numerically the adherents to Fascism are increasing.' The ever lengthening columns of Blackshirt marchers seen at that time, and recent stud-

British Union in Wartime 1939-40

BY GORDON BECKWELL

ies of membership lists in such diverse areas as West London and the West Country confirm that view.

The week before the Government's Declaration of War, Mosley spoke to the greatest street meeting in British history, at Ridley Road. Further crowds joined the march that followed. Three nights later came another massive meeting in Upper St. Martins Lane, Leicester Square. This last meeting with Britain at peace attracted as many people as last year's Poll Tax demonstration, but without the disorder.

When war came Mosley immediately visited BU district formations throughout the country for a personal briefing. In October he was back speaking amid scenes of intense fervour at Ridley Road, Kingsway's Stoll Theatre and the new Manchester Hippodrome.

In January 1940, the land battles in France in abeyance, Mosley published his proposals for Peace with Honour in **'The British Peace: How to get it'**. Within 4 days it sold 20,000 copies and during that first winter of the 'phony war' sales went into six figures, more than any other known pamphlet.

In Manchester on January 27, Churchill, then First Lord of the Admiralty, became fully aware of the Blackshirt peace campaign when his speech at the Free Trade Hall, broadcast to America, was interrupted by shouts of 'Mosley and Peace'.

In Poole, the local Blackshirt District Leader Flo Hayes, and author Hugh Ross Williamson (who had recently been expelled from the Labour Party for writing in **'Action'**) carried the vote for peace at a meeting in the Centenary Hall where a letter of good wishes was read from actress Dame Sybil Thorndike. A month later, Mosley spoke to a packed audience in the same hall. **'Action'** recorded: 'To us have come more of the best of the British, more even than before; and they go on coming.'

With the Spring the number of street meetings throughout Britain rose. In London alone the number grew from 41 in February to 137 in April in 1940, despite the blackout.

This was remarkable considering that the large majority of the younger active members, the District Leaders and other branch officers had been called up and were in the Services.

British Union was not alone in its advocacy of peace. At the Co-op Party's Easter conference, 1,323,000 votes called for an immediate armistice. The N.U.C. and the Shop Assistants Union passed resolutions condemning the war. With such open and latent support, why then did British Union poll so disappointingly in the three parliamentary by-elections in early 1940?

By then there was a closing of the ranks as the old maxim 'My country right or wrong' asserted itself. 'This same human instinct

was held to be invalid in the prosecution of German soldiers in the Nuremberg 'victors' Trials.)

At Silvertown the war party made its central theme 'a vote for BU is a vote for a country Britain is at war with'. At N.E. Leeds the Tories plastered the area with posters accusing the BU candidate of being Hitler's agent, ignoring the fact that the first official British serviceman to die in action against Germany was a Mosley Blackshirt.

In the wider sphere, British Union's own patriotism paradoxically worked against it. Many of its active members and branch officers had joined the Forces by early 1940. Women Blackshirts began a superhuman effort to fill the gap. Olive Hawks opened the Womens Peace Campaign at Holborn Hall, stewarded and addressed entirely by women, with the words 'Government demands youth shall die in defence of its blunders'.

They fully justified Mosley's belief that without them 'I could not have got a quarter of the way' as reported in the last **Comrade**. They were, long before today's spurious ideas in 'womens liberation', true liberated women.

The last great offensive came on British Union Day - 'May Day', 1940. A week before, 'Action' sales teams stood every 10 yards along London's West End main thoroughfares and made record sales.

On the morning of Sunday, 5th May, 17 meetings started throughout London at 11.30 followed by 4 rallies at 3.30. That evening, Victoria Park Square, Bethnal Green, was packed to suffocation point as Mosley demanded nothing less than resignation of the Government.

Bethnal Green
May Day 1940

As far as the eyes could see... loyal to Mosley, loyal to Britain

TRUE BRITONS



BEHIND THE VAN



IN FRONT OF THE VAN

HEROES OF THE LOST PEACE

"Peace now before a million lives are lost in this alien quarrel. Peace, not on Hitler's terms but by trusting in the might of

Britain, a peace with honour".

His speech was held up for long periods by thunderous cheering and applause. Similar reports came from British Union rallies in the provinces including 2000 in Birmingham, and even 1000

in Nottingham. 'Action' summed it up:

"This day will go down in the pages of British Union history never to be forgotten".

The reading of these words fifty years later is evi-

ence enough that British Union's last glorious fight for peace is with pride remembered.

But the Honour Standards had been raised for the last time. A few days later the police, acting on Home Office instructions, began using overt intimidation. Meetings were closed and speakers arrested without pretext. Mosley and 80 senior officers were arrested three weeks later, and the 18B Emergency Defence Regulation roundups was put in hand starting one of the darkest periods for British Justice. The craven British politicians, fighting a war they said in defence of all the freedoms, including expression, had not the gall or guts to legislate against dissent. Instead, they silenced its exponents by putting them away in jails and concentration camps without charge or trial by dubious legislation.

Those Blackshirts who were able still fought on. In June 1940 they still managed 5 meetings in London before the curtain finally came down. British Union was proscribed and the last words on the last page of the last issue of 'Action' on June 6th said it all and will live for ever, not only in the history of British Union, but wherever real men of honour and true British blood survive.

"Our conscience is clear. Be calm and be determined. Be loyal. Be true Britons".

Was it all worth it? Mosley had given the answer years before:

"Better the great adventure, better the great attempt for England's sake, better defeat, disaster, better far the end of that trivial thing called political career, than stifling in a uniform of blue and gold, strutting and posturing on the stage of little England, amid the scenery of decadence, until history writes of us... 'These were the men to whom was entrusted the Empire of Great Britain, and whose idleness, ignorance and cowardice left it a Spain'".

The Clarkes, the Hawks, the Hayes, Booths, Winfields, Blampieds, Mathews, Masons, Coopers, Morans, Ryans, Temple-Cottons, Kammelards, Wiltshires, Dunlops and others of equal part too numerous to mention: Fifty years on from their brave struggle and sacrifice we, who were born too late to play a part, give these heroes of the lost peace the Full Arm salute.

The Fight for Peace

'BETTER THE GREAT ATTEMPT FOR ENGLAND'S SAKE, BETTER DEFEAT, DISASTER.....'

MOSLEY AND PEACE

The slogan that appeared countrywide



Pamphlets, leaflets in their thousands

'The Spirit lives...The Rest will follow'

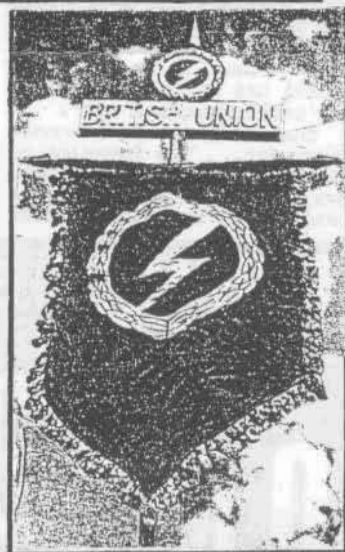
A full Honour Standard of British Union has been assembled, and is now in the safekeeping of Friends of O.M. It is seen here photographed in the sunshine of our early Spring against an English sky.

With it we feel it fitting to use some words from British Union's last marching song, **Battle Song**, and to remember its composer, **Frank Wiseman**, music and singing tutor of Worcester Cathedral School, and local British Union officer.

And of all our dead comrades who marched along.

Battle Song

*'Raise aloft the Standard!
The Leader marching before us!
Close up the ranks and join the chorus
Of a British battle song!
Hear the beat of the feet
Of a mighty nation waking,
Far ahead hear the tread
Of our comrades marching on.'*



OBITUARIES

Bill Howard Baker

SUDDENLY at his Wimbledon home on February 13, **BILL HOWARD BAKER**, 63, who after serving in the armed forces in latter part of the war became an early member of Union Movement.

A freelance journalist, born in Cork where he was educated and editor of his school magazine, he later forsook politics for a literary career. He established himself, as Peter Saxon, and under his own name, as author of Sexton Blake stories, and became editor of the Sexton Blake Library for Amalgamated Press.

In 1968 he founded his successful almost 'one man publishing house, continuing with Sexton Blake and specialising in biographies. Another successful venture born out of his boyhood love of Billy Bunter and Co at Greyfriars School was the reprinting of the weekly *Magnet*, printing more than its original run between 1908 and 1940, and had completed some ninety per cent of the 1600-odd when he died.

John Christian writes:

Although Bill Howard Baker's business life kept him outside politics, he did not forget old friends and was always approachable and helpful where his knowledge of a subject was required.

We were closely associated, at O.M.'s request, with the design of the cover of the paperback *Mosley - Right or Wrong?* in 1961, and before his untimely death, he gave valuable help in the placing for publication and associated matters of John Charnley's *Blackshirts and Roses* after the author's death.

Dorothy Evens

With deep sorrow we report the death on January 15 at Grays, Essex, of **DOROTHY EVENS**, widow of Eddie, BU and UM of Upminster and South London.

Many veteran UN members will remember Dorothy and Eddie, always present at Action Society, and POM social functions until Eddie's death in 1986, and some of Eddie's unseen work for the Mosley Movements over many years.

Dorothy maintained her moral and financial support to POM after Eddie's death, and it will surprise many that she died in her 81st year.

Farewell old friend.

Published by John Christian for
Friends of O.M.
12, Mulberry Close, London, E4

In Memoriam

"Hark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages"

ANDREWS, E.J.D.:

Canterbury Branch British Union

20 February 1940

AVERT, Capt. E.F. 'Bill': Southampton BU: 18B British political prisoner: London UM: at 93 oldest Chelsea Pensioner.

February 1976

BEAVAN, Arthur: BU 'I' Squad: D/L West Ham: Upton Parliamentary Candidate: 18B British Political Prisoner: Bristol UM.

23 March 1988

BECKETT, Joe: British & Empire Heavyweight Boxing Champion 1919-23: BU: 18B British Political Prisoner: UM: At 87.

March 1965

BROCK-GUGGS, Tom: BU: RAF: 18B British Political Prisoner arrested on active service Far East: husband of BU Chf. Womens Organiser

March 1982

CAPLETON, L. 'Cape': BU D/L Croydon winning Action Sales Cup: Later D/Insp: 18B British Political Prisoner: Bristol UM.

March 1961

CLAYTON, Charlie: East London BU and UM Drum Corps.

17 March 1978

DONOVAN, J.E. Limehouse BU: seaman 'Action' contributor 'Don Beresford'.

February 1938

DONNE, Dorothy, Viscountess: BU Parl. Cand. North Norfolk: UM.

26 March 1957

EATON, W.G. 'Bill': BU D/L Lancaster, D/Insp. N/Lancs & Westmorland BU Parl. Cand. Burnley: holder BU Gold Award.

5 February 1989

EATON, Harry: East London BU and UM.

February 1976

FERRIS, Don: Nottingham BU: 18B British political prisoner.

March 1952

FULLER, Maj-Gen J.F.C. CB CBE DSO: original tank expert, thinker and writer: organised British tanks World War 1: BU Parliamentary Candidate Westminster St. George's.

10 February 1966

GOOD, Ann: BU and UM speaker: O.M.'s UM secretary:

Early 1979

GREEN, John: Hackney BU and Essex UM.

March 1959

HAMILTON, Sir Archibald: popular member at Selsey Blackshirt Camps

March 1939

HAWLEY, Frank: Sheffield teacher: BU: 18B British Political Prisoner: UM organiser and election candidate.

26 March 1985

HAYES, Florence: BU D/L Bournemouth, Womens County Officer, Rants: 18B British Political Prisoner: UM.

March 1982

HOCKER, Bill: Shoreditch Union Movement.

March 1949

HUTTON, William: former D/T Edgbaston, Birmingham BU:

February 1937

JONES, Barry: Shoreditch BU: E/Yorks Regt: UM E/London election candidate 1949.

February 1990

KURT A.M. 'Alf': BU Parl. Candidate King's Lynn: 18B British Political Prisoner: UM.

March 1974

LIBBITER, Mrs: BU Limehouse Branch: 101 year old mother of Gladys Walsh, Clacton, who passed away December 1990.

3 February 1973

LIVINGS, Leslie: Leytonstone British Union

March 1935

BATCLIFFE, Ralph of Bures, Suffolk: BU & UM: at 85: 22 February 1989

February 1939

STEELE, Capt. C.H. BU Parl. Candidate Guildford: after injury from brick on Blackshirt march.

February 1973

SUNNER, H.A.: Broadstairs BU & UM.

February 1959

VALERIANI, Epaminondas, 'Pam': well known London BU member and proprietor of The Holborn Distributing Company. He organised the sale of Action by streetsellers and newsagents, and during the war, at risk of arrest, provided office accommodation for the 18B Detainees Aid Fund. At 81.

17 March 1983

WISEMAN, Frank C: D/Tr. Worcester BU: music and singing tutor Worcester Cathedral School: composer of BU's *Battle Song* and author of unpublished *Delayed Harvest*, written in a British concentration camp.

March 1953

WONTER, James H: 78 Canadian Bn 1914-18: BU D/Leader Dorset North & 18B British Political Prisoner: Wessex Br. UM.

Operation Brainwash

'naked aggression' is hypocritical, say the apologists of the holocaust of bombing of 'only military targets' that according to a UN official has relegated Iraq to a 'pre-industrial age'.

That at least is a honest argument. The invasion of Saudi Arabia after Kuwait would put one-quarter of the world's oil supplies at risk

and justifies any act of war by the West. Cutting off oil like cutting off food. A legitimate position if it was true.

It paints the picture of a triumphant megalomaniac, Saddam Hussain, who relies almost entirely on the sale of oil for his country's survival, planting his flag on his hoard of oil and turning off the tap. The final act of a madman.

FRIENDS OF O.M.

British Union Day

6.30
pm

MAY-DAY BUFFET SUPPER

Saturday, May 11th, 1991

Old Comrades



A sane examination of this scenario would conclude that it is not Saddam that is mad, but its exponents that are candidates for a lunatic asylum.

The truth is that Iraq is almost swimming in oil. Huge oilfields discovered in the last decade await development, a background to the Gulf war that never saw the light of day in the US/British reasons for war.

After the Iraq/Iran war, Iraq opposed the high pricing of OPEC oil. She wished to sell as much as oil as she could to pay for the development of her vast new resources, but was met with economic warfare by Kuwait, Saudi, and international bankers who channel the flow-back of oil profits to foreign countries at high interest rates. Saudi and Kuwait started to increase production over their quotas to deplete Iraq's oil revenues. Kuwait also started to steal vast amounts of oil from the Rumaila field, most of it inside Iraqi territory, using newly invented sideways oil drilling.

Apart from the long disputed Kuwait border - it was created by the drawing of a line on a map by British High Commissioner Sir Percy Cox in a tent in the Arabian desert in 1922 - the Iraq invasion was an attempt to gain access to a deep sea port to export her oil or die. The Saudis and Kuwaitis and their international bankers wished to limit her ability to do so.

It is clear, despite her protests, that America gave the 'nod' to Saddam to invade and he walked into the trap. The excuse they had been waiting for to disabuse this threat to the international oil cartel and its huge profits.

And to the expansionist dreams of the State of Israel, New York's outpost in Arab lands.

But "it was a famous victory". They were able to prove their high tech weapons, created for defence of the West against a more dangerous enemy than Saddam Hussein and a mere 18 million Iraqis and they were already paid for in the Regan term, and the casualties were light. Only 27 British servicemen died.

With not a British or European interest at stake, and in that tangled web of deceit.

27 TOO MANY

COMRADE

Newsletter of Friends of O.M.

No.29 April/May 1991

'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'



'DO NOT JUDGE ME or this Movement by any words of mine or any other man. Judge us by the facts, judge us by our records, by the history which lies behind us. And this much at least I claim from that history - whether you are for us or against us - you will find in this Movement, men who have stood fast against corruption, men who refused to sell the working class when the Labour leaders let them down.'

Oswald Mosley: Limehouse October 14 1936

In Peace - or War

MOSLEY'S BLACKSHIRTS

'Judge us by our records'

IN OUR continual research to establish the facts to bequeath to posterity the true picture of Mosley and his men, it has become evident, as COMRADE continues to show, that a considerable number of his Black-shirts were killed in action in World War II.

These young men, whose laughing faces we remember, shining bright through the mists of time had, with Mosley and a dream of his Greater Britain in their hearts, challenged the threatening winds of destiny of Britain's decline, the moves towards a European war making decline inevitable, as it did, and strived their utmost to prevent it.

When war came, and they became the scapegoats of a panicking political establishment, their comrades jailed without trial and the people turned against them on false allegations of treachery, they gave, for Britain, their lives, an example of the true meaning of Patriotism, and of the integrity of Mosley's men.

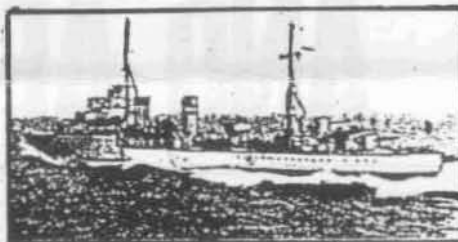
Such a young man was **CYRIL WATSON**. We tell the story of the action that started his long trail to British Union's Roll of Honour, and into history.

The last day of Seaman Watson

'I INTEND ATTACKING AT DAWN..' signalled the 2nd Destroyer Flotilla Commander, Captain B.A. Warburton-Lee, patrolling in Norway's Vestfiord, to the Admiralty on the evening of April 9 1940.

Part of a British naval force protecting the laying of mines the previous day in the Indreled, neutral Norway's territorial waters through which in winter Swedish iron ore was shipped to Germany, he had that morning been signalled to 'send some destroyers up to Narvik to make certain that no enemy troops land.'

The German response to Brit-



HMS HARDY: Last seen by survivors on fire and one gun still in action

ish Operation 'Wilfred' had been instant however, and although troops had been embarked for two days at Rosyth and the Clyde in cruisers and transports to occupy Norwegian ports, including Narvik, should the Germans attempt to sieze them - Plan 'R4' - German armed forces had on the 9th invaded Denmark and Norway and by dawn Narvik was in the hands of 2,000 mountain troops, conveyed in 10 destroyers.

Two hours later in London, Churchill, then First Lord of the Admiralty and Chairman of the Military Co-ordination Committee, the persistent originator of the plan to mine neutral waters and invade Norway, was reporting to the War Cabinet that destroyers were standing by 'to stop enemy transports entering Narvik.'

Turn to Page 6

'Judge us by the facts'

AS we go to press, the Editor and several old comrades who were present at the 'Battle of Cable Street' in 1936, were attending, at the invitation of the Institute of Contemporary British History, a 'witness seminar' on 'Cable Street', the purpose being to get behind the myths and its aftermath.

Because of increasing academic interest in British Union history, we have devoted most of this issue to the facts, not the myth, of Cable Street.

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

AUSTIN, Sgt. W.G. 'Bill':
1st Btn KRRC: Liverpool
British Union: 26: killed
in action Tunis: 10 May
1943: Lies in Medjéz-el-
Bab War Cemetery, Tunis.

AYRES, Pte. Francis 'Nipper':
6th Btn Green Howards:
Limehouse British Union:
20: killed in action near
Dunkirk 25 May 1940: Lies
Oye-Plage Communal Ceme-
tery, France.

BROWER, Cpl. A.A.J. 2nd Btn
Black Watch: Dorset
British Union: killed in
action Burma 5 April
1944: Name inscribed on
Rangoon Memorial

EAST, Lt. Philip: 5th Btn
Queen's Own Cameron
Highlanders: Leytonstone
British Union: 26: killed
in action Tunisia 24
April 1943: Lies in
Medjéz-el-Bab War Ceme-
tery, Tunisia.

FITCH, Sq/Ldr. R.L.J. DFC:
RAF: Clapham
Brit. Union
26: killed
in flying
ops Norfolk
21 May 1945
Buried St.
Nicholas
Churchyard
Kelvedon Hatch, Essex.

GILL, Sgt. Pil. B.W. RAF VR
killed in flying acci-
dent No.3 Glider Train-
School 28 May 1943 after
release from 18B political
imprisonment. Age 22
he was 'leads British
Union where he now lies
in a collective grave
at Harehills Cemetery.

IRVINE, Pte. R: 1/5 Btn
Queens Royal Regt: 21:
Shoreditch British Union
killed in action near
Dunkirk 28 May 1940:
Lies Strazeele Communal
Cemetery, France.

MITFORD, Maj. The Hon. Tom:
KRRC: NHQ
Branch Brit-
ish Union:
brother of
Lady Mosley:
killed in ac-
tion: age 36
Burma 4 April
1945.

He is buried at Taukkyan
War Cemetery, Rangoon.

WATSON, A/B Cyril: RN:
Central Leeds Branch
British Union: age 21:
killed in action "HMS
Hardy" off Narvik,
Norway, April 10 1940:
Remembered Plymouth
Naval Memorial.



THE GENERAL CRY....that the entire population of East London had risen against Mosley and had declared that he and his followers 'should not pass', and that they did not pass 'owing to the solid front presented by the workers of East London.' This statement, is, however, far from reflecting accurately the state of affairs....

Special Branch Report, November 1936: Public Record Office MEPOI, 2/3043

MOSLEY SPEAKS IN EAST LONDON SUNDAY 4TH OCTOBER

FOUR MARCHING COLUMNS
FOUR GREAT MEETINGS

MOSLEY WILL SPEAK AT ALL MEETINGS

Incitement to violence

All
out



Heading of a Red leaflet circulating in East End

5,000 POLICE IN 'STAND-BY' TO-DAY

PRECAUTIONS FOR THE
EAST END MARCH

POLICE WERE MOBILISED EARLY TO-DAY
IN ANTICIPATION OF CLASHES IN THE
EAST END OF LONDON THIS AFTERNOON.

Plans for Blackshirt today marches, with Sir
Oswald Mosley, leader, 1.30 p.m.

Sunday headlines
October 4 1936

British Union Press
Statement, October 4 1936
authorised by Mosley

"We have held many meetings in recent months without disorder."

"Sir Oswald Mosley addressed 100,000 people in Victoria Park without serious disturbance."

"East Londoners are not hostile to our meetings."

"An attack on this procession and these meetings, however, has been openly organised for days."

"East London has been chalked with the most extreme incitements to violence..."

"Our sole object is to lay our case before the public."

British Union and East London CABLE STREET AND AFTER

WHATEVER the public response of the Authorities and the British Communist Party at the time, there was apparently a remarkable degree of private agreement on British Union's view of events, writes

GORDON BECKWELL

The Eve

● "Out of the Ghetto"
Joe Jacobs [1978]
Secretary, Stepney
Communist Party

THE INSPECTOR...said 'I saw among your possessions there was a razor blade in a holder.' This was true. I used it as a pen knife particularly for sharpening pencils. These things were in common use.'

● "East End News"
October 6 1936

P.C. Webb said about 10.15 pm on Friday, Oct. 2 he was one of a number of officers who were escorting a procession of 200 to 300 Communists along the Mile End Road towards Stepney Green.

At the corner of Burdett Road, a girl dressed in Blackshirt uniform was selling the *Blackshirt* newspaper. The members of the crowd rushed towards



A lone policeman faces the Red mob in Aldgate

her and attempted to get hold of her, but several police officers ranged themselves round her and protected her.

Jacobs, who was the leader of the Communists, was shouting, 'Lynch her! Lynch her!'

Jacobs was arrested for leading the attack on the lone woman Blackshirt.

She did not have a razor blade on her for sharpening pencils.

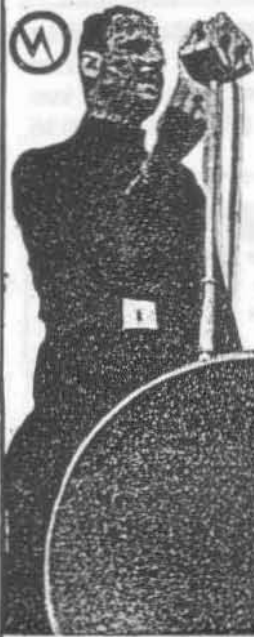
The Day

After the Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, Sir Philip Game, banned the march, the main body of Blackshirts marched west to Westminster, but back in East London at the 4 places where Mosley had been going to speak, Blackshirt meetings did go ahead, and Blackshirts DID march through East London on the late afternoon of the 'Battle of Cable Street'.

A fact never recorded in the Communist and media created and now fading historical myth that 'East London workers on that day drove Mosley's Blackshirts out of East London'.

But a fact recorded at the time in Special Branch reports, and released with other revealing truths to the Public Record Office under the 30-year rule.





BRITAIN'S LEADER

A SPECIAL MESSAGE TO EAST LONDON

FROM OSWALD MOSLEY

I HAVE been asked by the Editor to give a brief account of the "British Union." Already I have spoken often of our National Socialist creed in East London and have been deeply moved by the welcome which the workers have given to our Cause. The people of East London have found in our faith their own faith and have made our Movement their own.

We love our country, but we want revolutionary change to build a country worthy of that love. We fight the political parties which have betrayed our country and sold it to the corrupt interests of Jewish finance. We have had enough of the Socialist leaders who made promises to the workers and then "sold out" on them. We have had more than enough of the Conservatives and Liberals who exist to defend the great vested interests.

All the parties have been tried and found wanting. All serve the alien and betray Britain. Therefore we fight them with the motto "Britain for the British."

We believe that we can build the greatest land the world has ever known. We believe that with the passionate faith of a religious conviction.

We know that within the British Empire we have all the wealth that our people can need. Our people are the heirs of a great and glorious inheritance won by the heroism of our forefathers.

But the "internationalism" of the political parties prevents the development of that heritage for the benefit of the British people. They have made of Great Britain the dumping ground of the alien. This shall stop. What our forefathers had the manhood to win we have the manhood to develop for our own people.

But before we can do it we must get rid of the international parties, Socialist and Conservative alike, and put in power a Government with the motto: "Britain First." This is the purpose of the British Union and you can help us to do it.

WE shall win power by the vote of the people at a General Election. By the will of the people alone shall we govern as the instrument of their determination to save themselves and to save their country. To secure the revolution the workers know to be necessary they must have a Movement and a Government of their own creation. This they can secure by their votes without violence or bloodshed.

But the Movement must be British and composed of men and women who have stood true as steel against the corruption of the old parties and the great alien interests. This we can prove is true of our British Union alone.

Study our record and our policy and see for yourselves. That is all we ask because we know that the result will be to make you a National Socialist. Then we can welcome you to a great brotherhood of Britons dedicated to the salvation of the land we love.

Don't stand aside and let others fight for you. Join our ranks and fight for yourselves and fight for your country. Your children will bless you as the men and women who led Britain to greatness again.

—OSWALD MOSLEY

"East London Pioneer"
October 1 1936

More
of the
MYTH

Ex-Servicemen's National Movement Against Fascism
CALLING ALL EX-SERVICEMEN!
MARCH BEHIND OUR
NATIONAL BANNER
Then Stand Side-by-Side as in 1914-18 with
old comrades against Mosley
RALLY! OURWARD STREET (—)
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1.30 p.m.

AND MORE OF THE REALITY

Special Branch Report MEPOE, 2/3043

Organised for 'attacking Fascism in its strongholds and sweeping it off the streets of London', it was 'doubtful whether' the Jewish-Communist Ex-Servicemen's Movement had 'more than one-half' who 'were ex-servicemen.'

Other bodies set up to oppose the Blackshirts in East London were run by those who were 'only concerned with monetary gain, to be obtained by exploiting more or less wealthy Jews...'. All the groups included 'many foreign Jews' who 'are far more anti-police than anti-Fascist.'

3 CABLE STREET

Special Branch PRO: HO144/21061

CABLE STREET, SHOREDITCH:

The platform was set up at 10am and Lionel Duncan held the pitch for British Union. At 5.30pm, 1000 people were still waiting to hear Mosley. Bailey, Arthur Nagels and Bill Hunt spoke. All the speakers were enthusiastically received by the audience and there were many cries of 'SHAME' when it was learned that the march had been banned. Meeting ended at 7.35pm. No disorder.

CHESTER STREET, BETHNAL GREEN:
Police moved the British Union meeting to this site

**INCITEMENT
TO
VIOLENCE**

"Daily Worker" October 3 1936

from its proposed location at Victoria Park Square.

Alf Cooper held the platform from 12.15pm. At 5.15pm there were 400 people present and 6 in Blackshirt uniform. This increased to 1500 with 26 in uniform. 'Mick' Clarke, District Inspector of the 8th London Area, spoke for 30 minutes denouncing the Government ban. At 6.05pm he closed the meeting and led a march of

Blackshirts and supporters for one mile through Bethnal Green back to their District Headquarters at 222, Green Street. No disorder.

STAFFORD ROAD, BOW:

Alex Brandon and Eddie Turner held the platform for British Union. 300 people were still present when Turner closed the meeting at 5.50pm. No disorder.

SALMON LANE, LIMEHOUSE:

Platform in position at mid-



night. By 11am there were 300 people waiting to hear Mosley speak. Charlie Lewis and Dave Robinson addressed the crowd which by 3.45pm had increased to 5000. At 5pm 200 Reds attacked the speaker and the police closed the meeting.

HOXTON:

After Cable Street the Reds organised a 'Victory' meeting in Hoxton Square. Afterwards, several hundred Communist supporters tried to hold a 'Victory' march through East London but it stopped and dispersed in nearby Hoxton Street after a 'slight affray occurred' involving hostile East Londoners.

The Reckoning

The Sunday after 'Cable Street', the Communist Party tried to hold another 'Victory' march in East London.

"Morning Post" October 13 1936

'The Victory March organised by the Socialists and Communists had a stormy progress through the East End.'

"Out of the Ghetto" Joe Jacobs

'As we marched along the Whitechapel Road the shouting grew louder. We got to Green Street, everyone braced themselves because we were about to enter the enemy's so-called stronghold.... As we approached the area near the BUF headquarters the pavements were lined with Blackshirts and their supporters. They pelted us with rotten fruit and flour.'

Ten days after 'Cable Street', after a day of mounting excitement in the East End as rumours grew, Mosley turned up at an unadvertised meeting and spoke to cheering thousands in Victoria Park Square, Bethnal Green. He then headed a march to Salmon Lane, Limehouse, and spoke again to a cheering crowd of thousands.

The march had been banned, but when Mosley told the police he was going to walk to Limehouse, and the crowd would probably follow, they withdrew the ban.

3 CABLE STREET

● Special Branch PRO: HO144/21061

Special Branch reported that Mosley spoke at Victoria Park Square, where the crowd had grown to 7000 by 8pm. "It was noticeable by the salute that 80% were his supporters." They marched to Salmon Lane, Limehouse where the crowd swelled to 12,000. "No organised disturbance and the BUF carried out their programme without a hitch... It was remarkable, in view of the attitude adopted by the anti-Fascist bodies towards the previous fascist march that this procession should pass unmolested and practically unopposed....at intervals the fascist salute was given by people in doorways or by small groups on the pavements..In Commercial Road there was some disorganisation of traffic owing to the huge crowds - 3000 marchers and some 3000 who accompanied them and about 5000 at the meeting place...500 in British Union uniform."

● "Our Flag Stays Red" Phil Piratin [1948] MP and Communist Organiser

"One evening Mosley held a meeting in Salmon Lane, Limehouse...I went along to this meeting, made myself inconspicuous, and watched to see the support which Mosley had.....what kind of people would march. The fascist band moved off, and behind him about 50 thugs in blackshirt uniform. Then came the people....men, women (some with babies in arms), and youngsters marched behind Mosley's banner. I knew some of these people, some of the men wore trade-union badges...Why are these ordinary working class folk supporting Mosley? Obviously because Mosley's appeal struck a cord...above all these people were living miserable squalid lives."

● "Out of the Ghetto" Joe Jacobs

"The fascists did rally in Victoria Park Square within 3 or 4 days of October 4th. [actually 10 days. Ed] and did march through Mile End to Limehouse right across Stepney shortly after....The DPC [District Party Committee of the CPGB] said it would have been ridiculous to launch a 'They Shall not Pass' campaign and then have to face humiliating defeat, because the fascists had succeeded in passing anyway."

The Stepney Communist Party had a membership of around 300 at that time it was reported.

● Special Branch PRO: HO144/21064

Special Branch reported that the Blackshirt membership for Limehouse (just one part of Stepney) was 1700.

● 'Mick' Clarke at at Victoria Park Square, Bethnal Green October 14 1936

"The Government bows down to Red violence and communist intimidation but since October 4th., British Union have held many meetings at the place where their Leader had planned to speak before the Government proved itself incapable of administering law and order."

● Mosley at Salmon Lane, Limehouse October 14 1936

"From this attack delivered upon us we come back not weaker but stronger....They have come to our standards because they will not see the flag of Britain trampled in the dust...The people of East London have created this Movement of ours in your midst. It is to the People we come and from the People we derive our strength.....It is because they are so afraid of the appeal we have made to the People that they are anxious to prevent the People hearing in that case...Why are they so afraid of us addressing you and making a speech to you? It is because the Blackshirt cause has gone straight to your hearts..We do not interfere with their meetings...They cannot meet our arguments or our case and they are terrified of my speaking, and my friend Clarke speaking, because they know that we have got a case they cannot answer...instead of meeting argument with argument....the only argument they have to the Blackshirt case is the brickbat and the razor.... This I claim from History: whether you are for us or against us, hate us or love us - you will find in this Movement men who have stood fast against corruption and not let down the Working Class. Tonight you have given me that kindness and comradeship that I have come to know in East London."

● Special Branch PRO: MEPOL 2/3043

"The general cry of the anti-fascist press was that the entire population of East London had risen against Mosley and had declared that he and his followers 'should not pass', and that they did

"THE people of East London have created this Movement of ours in your midst. It is to the People we come and from the People we derive our strength." Mosley, Limehouse 1936

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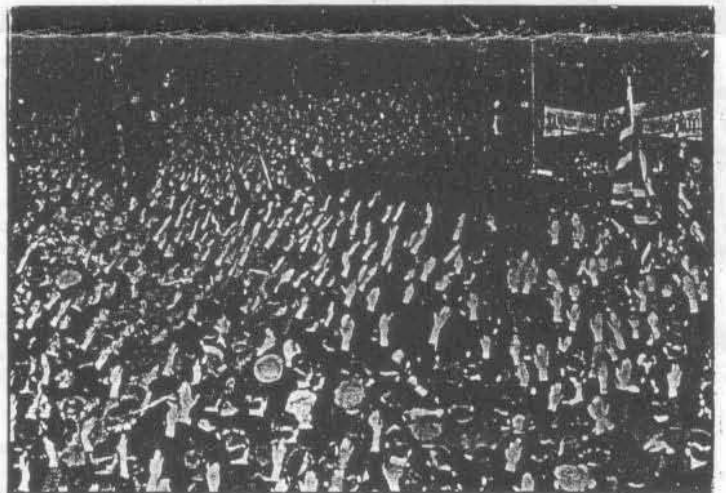
THE EAST LONDON PIONEER

Circulating in the Boroughs of
Bethnal Green, Bow, Hackney, Shoreditch and Stepney

Price ONE PENNY

RALLY TO MOSLEY

And Rally they did!



Mosley takes the salute of the huge crowd at Salmon Lane, Limehouse, on October 14 1936

THE DAY THE EAST END TOOK MOSLEY AND HIS BLACKSHIRTS TO THEIR HEARTS

not pass 'owing to the solid front presented by the workers of East London.' This statement, is, however, far from reflecting accurately the state of affairs...There is abundant evidence that the Fascist movement has been steadily gaining in many parts of East London and has strong support in such districts as Stepney, Shoreditch, Bethnal Green, Hackney and Bow.

There can be no doubt that the unruly element in the crowd....was very largely Communist-inspired....While attempts by the Communist Party to raise enthusiasm over the 'Fascist defeat' were comparative failures, the British Union of Fascists, during the week following the ban of their march, conducted the most successful series of meetings since the beginning of the movement. In Stepney, Shoreditch, Bethnal Green, Stoke Newington and Limehouse, crowds estimated at several thousands of people... assembled and accorded the speakers an enthusiastic re-

● "Daily Express" October 15 1936

It was then I saw a scene that to me was amazing. I would have sworn away my life in defence of a belief that such a spectacle was not even remotely possible in any part of London.

Thousands of labouring men and women threw up their arms in the German Nazi salute. Not a few here and there, let it be stressed, but five out of every six. Not a boo, not a hiss, not a discordant note of any sort, but much cheering.

I found it difficult to believe my eyes. Not so long ago I watched Hitler ride through miles of Berlin streets to open the Olympic Games. By comparison - this, of course, refers to the size of the crowds - there were more Nazi salutes near Victoria Park last night than there were on any Berlin corner last summer.

The 'Nazi' salute is actually the old Roman salute imported into England in B.C.55. [Ed]

ception; opposition was either non-existent or negligible and no disorder took place....

In contrast, much opposition

4 CABLE STREET

has been displayed at meetings held by the Communist movement's speakers. On several occasions...have been accorded an antagonistic reception in different parts of East London; it has been for the police to close some meetings to prevent breaches of the peace...

Briefly, a definite pro-fascist feeling has manifested itself throughout the districts mentioned since the 4th October....It is reliably reported that the London membership has been increased by 2000.

Voters Back Blackshirts

Five months later, in March 1937, British Union demonstrated its strength in East London by achieving at its first attempt, a remarkable vote in the ICC Elections, in those boroughs where Mosley was to have spoken and Blackshirts were to have marched on that day in October when it was alleged, and the myth maintained for some 50 years, that Mosley and his Blackshirts were unwanted in East London, and that the whole population had risen against them, their 'victory' signalling the end of Mosley and his Movement.

In Bethnal Green, the percentage of the total vote was 23 per cent, in Limehouse 16.3 per cent and in Shoreditch 14.8 per cent.

This was remarkable in view of the fact that the oldest local Blackshirt organisation was just over two years, and the youngest only eight months old, and that in this 'Daddies' election, only the older people had the Municipal vote. Only 'householders' were legible, the sons and daughters from whom Mosley drew his active support and who in the 1930s were generally living in the family home and had the Parliamentary vote, were ineligible.

"Observer" March 7 1937

....the size of their vote was a surprise even to those in touch with the East End.

"Manchester Guardian" March 5 1937

'The results gained...are rather surprising indications

of the strength....in some working-class districts.'

"Daily Worker" March 5 1937

'A disturbing feature is the large number of votes recorded.'

That this was not just a 'one-off' is evident from results eight months later in the November Borough Elections which Blackshirt candidates again fought in Bethnal Green Shoreditch and Limehouse, including new Wards in Bethnal Green, and taking on Mile End in addition to Limehouse in Stepney, the results which have never been analysed by political historians.

In Bethnal Green, British Union candidates, who had displaced the old-established Liberals in March, maintained their second place to Labour, and in Shoreditch and Limehouse they moved from third to second place, putting a Tory/Liberal coalition at the bottom of the poll, a success achieved entirely by local members and resources.

"Daily Worker" November 3 1937

'For the whole of Stepney the Fascist vote was 19 per cent, an overall increase.'

As war clouds gathered in the late 1930s, Blackshirt support continued to grow in East London. Despite the bann-

Limehouse Lads



LIMEHOUSE was East London's Blackshirt 'baby' in 1936. Just two months old at 'Cable Street', one of its District Leaders, Arthur Mason, remembers queues to join at its premises over an old stable in Essian Street, near Salmon Lane, on the evening of the Red riot. 600 enrolled in two days, and a month later Special Branch reported it had 1700 members. [PRO: HO144/21064]

Five months later it achieved 16 per cent of the vote in the ICC Elections and was also presented with a £100 cheque by O.M. for being the fastest growing branch.

As 'Blackshirt' saw it

DEPRESSION IN FLEET STREET



"Now All We Do Is Explain How The Blackshirts Import Their Voters"

ing of the uniform and the ban on marches in the area, Mosley, 'Mick' Clarke and many others attracted ever increasing audiences culminating in over 100,000 people in Bethnal Green on May Day, 1940.

That the rest of England, and indeed the rest of London was generally unaware of the growing strength of Mosley's Blackshirts in this important working-class area of Britain's capital city is an understatement. An almost total censorship of Mosley and his men by Press and BBC, except when Red organised violence from time to time unsuccessfully attempted to smash the Movement, effectively disinforming the British people of the true state of

affairs.

This conspiracy of silence actively assisted the left-wing created myth that East Enders on October 4th 1936 at Cable Street stopped Mosley once and for all, his support thereafter in continued decline.

This fraudulent historical view continued to appear in new histories and autobiographies for nearly half-a-century, but in recent years, thanks to the work of Friends of O.M. in its presentation of true facts, and a new generation of persistent academics and historians, of the uncorrupted enquiring minds of some elements of today's youth, the truth is beginning to emerge.

HISTORICAL LIES How they are perpetuated

'CHILD nearly killed in Cot by Fascists. East End Terror Again.' screamed a REYNOLDS NEWS headline on 7 March 1937. And how odd, the JEWISH CHRONICLE had an identical story. Over the past 50-odd years, this 'historical evidence' has been picked up by the media when featuring 1930s 'Blackshirt thuggery', and even academics have been guilty of this charge. At times the story has again been enlarged. It was a baby thrown through a window by Blackshirt thugs, not the original brick! What are the facts?

Special Branch PRO: MEPOL 2/3109

'A brick was thrown through the window of my flat on the Bethnal Green Estate. The brick narrowly missed hitting my nine-months-old baby sleeping in a cot in that room. I am convinced it was thrown by Fascists who know me as being an Anti-Fascist an a member of the Labour Party' according to the father. The National Council for Civil Liberties circled M.P.s and a deputation saw the Home Secretary,

Sir John Simon who ordered an investigation.

The police reported that the father had been visited by the National Council for Civil Liberties asking for information of 'fascist violence and he had men-a stone coming through the window, but denied he accused the fascists. He had not thought of reporting it to the police, and was very annoyed when an 'exaggerated version' was used in newspapers.

The report concluded: 'The window alleged broken is about 40 feet from the ground, on the top third floor' and that examination revealed 'that only a small stone could have broken it. Whoever threw the stone could not have taken deliberate aim at the window'. Another myth nailed.

In Memoriam

"Hark! the sound of many voices,
choosing through the vale of ages,
Britain listens and rejoices,
singing on Tradition's pages...."

- BEST, James Clifford:** Prop. Off
N/E Leeds Br. British Union; NMQ
Staff speaker: 18B political
speaker. April 1987
- CAMPBELL, J.B.** Manchester BU
and UM. May 1952
- CAMPBELL, Roy:** Patriot, soldier,
poet: good friend of Franco
Spain and British Union.
In car crash April 1957
- CHITTY, E.B.:** Morden British Union
bus driver. April 1939
- COLE, Captain T.F.:** Burgess Hill
British Union. May 1939
- DENTON, Walter:** British Union D/L
Doncaster: 18B political pris-
oner then armed forces: visited
by O.M. in hospital shortly
before death: UM. April 1962
- DICKINSON, B. Pop:** Manchester
British Union: father of Reg/
Insp Charlie Dickinson.
April 1940
- DIXON, Mrs Lillian, wife of BU D/L**
Jameson Dixon. April 1966
- DOBBY, Albert:** BU Manchester,
Hulme Br. D/Tr. April 1937
- DUBIG, "Raddy":** Union Movement
London Drum Corps: 12 April 1986
- DUNAYNE, Henry:** BU: Sth London
UM. April 1976
- EASTWELL, Jack:** Bethnal Green Br
British Union: UM. April 1975
- ENGLISH, Mrs Marjorie Angela:**
mother Kensington UM organiser
Michael English. April 1952
- ENGEL, Bernard:** UM: of Ramonds-
worth, Mdx. April 1980
- HOGGARTH, George:** British Union
D/Tr, Ewe, Suffolk: 18B political
prisoner: UM. 9 April 1985
- HOSKINS, Miss Brid:** UM: aunt of
BU & UM's Bill Harris.
In Cornwall. April 1980
- LOCKE, Ida:** Norwich British
Union. May 1937
- MART, Dr. W.T.D., RM LACS RSC:**
Sheffield Br. Union. 19 May 1940
- McSweeney, Lt. Col.:** British Union
D/Leader, Hastings. 13 May 1940
- MERRITT, William:** 'Tottenham Br
B. Union: 1914-18 crippled ex-
soldier: in Australia: April 1980
- MITFORD, Unity Valkyrie:** sister
of Lady Mosley. 28 May 1948
- NIGHTINGALE, A.:** British Union
D/L, Horsham: 18B political
prisoner: UM. April 1948
- PEARSON, Lady:** British Union Parl
Cand. Canterbury. 10 April 1959
- PHILLIPS, Joe:** Linehouse British
Union. April 1951
- PORTER, Wally:** Dorset British Un.
18B political prisoner: UM.
May 1981
- POWELL, Vice-Adm G.B. CBE RN:**
D/L and Parl. Cand. Portsmouth.
27 May 1952
- PRITCHARD, David:** BU NMQ Staff:
in m/cycle accident. April 1935
- REEDS, Lady:** mother of Lady
Mosley. May 1963
- ROBERTSON, Kenneth:** Shoreditch
British Union. May 1939
- SCOTT, Arthur:** Notts British Un.
18B political prisoner: UM.
May 1959
- SHEPHERD, Fred:** East London
Blackshirt Cadet: UM N/London
Organiser. 30 April 1988
- SIBNEY, Alf:** E/London Br. Union:
husband, father UMs Ann & Jerry
April 1976
- SIMMONS, Eric:** Woodford: British
Union & UM Drum Corps: husband
of Pam. 4 April 1988
- SMITH, Ernest "Tubby":** Linehouse
British Union: husband of Ann.
April 1984
- SURBITES, C.H.R.:** Dorset West Br.
Union: Bournemouth UM. April 1982
- TOMKINS, Bruce William:** Kingston
British Union: UM: at 77.
25 April 1990

1 Seaman Watson

At noon the Admiralty, whose sole intelligence was a press report that one German ship had landed a small force, signalled Warburton-Lee to 'Proceed to Narvik and sink or capture enemy ship' and at his discretion to land forces if 'you think you can recapture Narvik from number of enemy present.' This direct intervention by Churchill at the the Admiralty had taken control of operations of ships of his own force out of the hands of Vice-Admiral W.J. Whitworth, at sea commanding the Battle Cruiser Squadron who could have supplied reinforcements for the little Narvik force.

Unhappy with this meagre information, Warburton-Lee contacted the Norwegians at Tranoy island from where pilots were normally embarked for the rest of the journey, and learned that six warships, larger than the destroyers, and a submarine had gone up the fiord, that mines had probably been laid where the waters narrowed into Ofotfiord, and that the Germans held Narvik in considerable strength.

At 2100 hours, Churchill at the Admiralty signalled the go-ahead for the dawn attack, but a second signal shortly after midnight, again by-passing both the cruiser squadron commander and Admiral Sir Charles Forbes, C-in-C Home Fleet in the North Sea, betrayed some doubts on the previous decision: 'You alone can judge whether in these circumstances attack should be made...' but by the time it was received the flotilla was feeling its way through continuous snowstorms into Ofotfiord.

And thus it was that the resolute Captain of Hardy led his small flotilla of Hunter, Ravock, Hotsour and Hostile through the Narrows, and in blinding snow and mist, an invisible shoreline and beset with navigational hazards, the 15-mile passage to Narvik, and the only laurels to be won, at a cost, in the Norway debacle, due largely to Churchill's bungling and interference in orders of battle.

Entering Narvik harbour on the heels of a patrolling German destroyer who for some inexplicable reason had, unrelieved, left the patrol position empty, the British ships signalled the dawn with a fusillade of torpedoes and shells that tore into the sleeping Germans in the destroyers and other packed merchant ships. Before the dazed gun crews could come into action, two destroyers had been sunk, including the flagship *Heidkamp*, killing its Commodore, and within an hour, during which they withdrew and

made two further attacks, the British flotilla had damaged three further destroyers seriously enough, without repair facilities, to be unseaworthy.

As five of the reported six enemy ships had been engaged, he prepared to head seawards out of the mist loomed three heavier armed German destroyers, berthed during the night in a side fiord, and a running battle developed.

The Germans tanks had not been refuelled overnight and they could not stay the chase, but just as it looked that the British luck was to hold, two further destroyers, berthed in another side fiord overnight, appeared out of the mist, blocking the withdrawal of the 2nd Flotilla.

A salvo of shells hit the *Hardy*, one accurately on the bridge, and another the boiler room starting a raging fire. A second salvo cut the engines steam pipes and was slowing her to a standstill.

A ship's officer managed to steer the ship to ground on rocks a few hundred yards from shore when an order was given abandon ship and some 170 officers and men gained the shore after swimming a hundred yards and wading another 200 yards under heavy German shelling.

On the bridge, every man lay dead or wounded, including Captain Warburton-Lee. He died on shore after his men had towed him there by raft. Later he was buried by local people and posthumously awarded the first VC of World War II.

In wheelhouse, gun crews and below deck, Hardy's ratings sustained 14 fatal casualties including 21 year old Black-shirt Cyril Watson, believed to be the first of a fair number of Mosley's young men from British Union's Leeds branches to die in the war in which as civilians they had, for Britain's sake, fought to prevent, and whose spirits now with arms upraised, hail the spirit of their old comrade, released at last from its watery grave by our story of his small part in the line of duty on that April day.

● HMS Hunter was also lost with all but 50 of her crew, who were picked up by the Germans.

● All HMS Hardy's survivors were picked up by British destroyers three days later.

● Churchill's intervention from the Admiralty, by-passing Home Fleet C-in-C and Cruiser Squadron Commander, giving the flotilla commander discretion to attack based on incomplete intelligence and with reinforcements available, was largely responsible for the final costly unequal battle that blighted the earlier success of Warburton-Lee's little force.

Old Comrades



OBITUARIES

Sid Grundy

IT IS WITH REGRET we report the death of veteran Mosley man **SID GRUNDY** of Middlesex who was in his eighties.

He was a member of British Union, but it was at early Union Movement functions that many will remember 'the Grundy's', and later, Lavinia and Trevor who at 16 became UMs youngest speaker before emigrating.

After an absence of some 30 years, Sid was reunited with his old comrades in 1989, attending both POM functions, but failing health kept him away last year.

We offer our condolences to Lavinia and Trevor.

Albert White

Another old Union Movement comrade whose death we have to report is **ALBERT WHITE** who was in his eighties.

Ron Webb, who was his area tells us that he joined Union Movement at its birth having previously joined the British League of Ex-Servicemen after wartime service in the ROC.

In the 1960-70s he stood on several occasions as a UM candidate in local election in the North West London Branches area and later moved to Lancashire.

Thanks—and Apologies

THE EDITOR thanks readers for the many 'Get Well' wishes during his recent sojourn in hospital and current therapy, and in consequence, apologizes for the late publication of this and the previous issue of 'Comrade'.

Indeed, his continued blundering interventions finally caused Admiral Whitworth to protest that he had now been given three different objectives - to prevent the enemies' escape, to prevent their reinforcement, and to attack them.

The Norway adventure ended like Churchill's First War Dardenelles adventure - in disaster, but not for the blundering First Lord.

Instead Chamberlain bore the blame and Churchill realised his ambition.

They made him Prime Minister.

COMRADE

Newsletter of Friends of O.M.

No.30 June-August 1991

'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'



THIS system of debt-money. It is the cause of poverty, squalor, disease: it corrupts honour and destroys the genuine aristocrats of heart and mind.

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

AITKEN, Sqn/Ldr Lionel: RAF 59 Sqn: "1" Squad British Union: brother of Marjorie, BUF Womens D/Organiser, and Andrew BUF, killed RAF flying accident 1937: o/c Black House NHQ 1935: killed in action 7 July 1941 bombing German convoy off Dunkirk Lies in Dunkirk Town Cemetery.

BRUNING, Clement: British Union speaker and NHQ Admin. Officer, Prospective Candidate Wood Green: one of five Ealing Black-shirt brothers: died 17 August 1942, age 31, a civilian in German concentration camp when brother GUY a Political Prisoner in British concentration camp. He lies in Cracow (Rakowicki) Cemetery, Poland



CHAMBERS, Donald S.: British Union Drum Corps: joined RAF first day of W/War 2: then British Political Prisoner, then Army from which discharged to die: age 24, he died on 18 June 1943.

FAIREY, W/O David George: RAF 212 Sdn & Leytonstone British Union: killed on ops. Cochín, India, 27 June 1944: Lies Madras War Cemetery.

MULLAN, L/Cpl. Paddy: Corps of Military Police: British Union "1" Squad: killed in action Battle of Knightsbridge Box, 12 June 1942: Lies in Knightsbridge War Cemetery, Accra, Libya.

WALSH, Sgt. Michael: RAF 156 Sqn: Limehouse British Union: 23: missing Bremen operation on 27 July 1942 Remembered on Runnymede Air Force Memorial.

GREENWOOD, Capt. Charles: 8th Btn Parachute Rgt, Army Air Corps: APO Enfield Br. British Union: 29: London speaker: Act. D/L 1939-40: killed in action D-Day June 1944: He lies in Ranville War Cemetery, Normandy.

THE present financial system is a living lie says **ROBERT RICHARD**. Shall Europe, emerging from the fratricidal divisions of its past, be organised in the interests of its peoples, or those of International Finance?

BRANCH BANK EUROPE

BRTAIN is now into a period of political clowning and machinations which, aided by charlatan commentators and media sorcery is leading up to a highly orchestrated General Election.

The respective Party Manifestos will contain little with which the majority of voters will disagree - as usual. However, a Party is rarely voted into power. It is the governing party that is voted out of power. The two preceding General Elections have been an exception to this rule so by the law of averages a change must be expected. Will it be a 'First-Past-Post' jamboree?; a 'Hung' Parliament?; or a Coalition Government?

For this answer we must not look at the political or economic policies of the Parties, which are farcial but at the last three generations of Parliamentary history.

The 20s witnessed 'Coalition Government'; the 40s likewise - given the more emotive name of "National". Shall we get the same in the 'Nineties'?

Let us also consider the international financial mechanism and the myth of

money, the understanding of which merely requires perseverance to reach the conclusion that the present financial system is a living lie.

Social and international strife is invariably caused by this system of debt-money. It is the

AND ONE CAME HOME

QUR CONTRIBUTOR, who writes as **ROBERT RICHARD**, was one of Mosley's earliest Blackshirts in the North. In 1934 he was one of four who took the Mosley message to the village greens and market squares of the West Country in the BUF's Agricultural Tour.

After six years war service he was active in Mosley Book Clubs and early days of Union Movement until joining a Government service, then gaining Mosley's acceptance of his resignation.

Turn to Page 6

cause of poverty, squalor, disease: it corrupts honour and destroys the genuine aristocrats of heart and mind.

The hinge on which the present financial system revolves is the faulty use of the human mind, its long persistence having its origin in the acceptance of completely erroneous conceptions, corroborated by a mass of false ideas formulated and propagated by the financial priesthood. Turn to Page 2

A BLACKSHIRT SOLDIER'S GRAVE, where he lies with twentyfive RAF airmen in an English village



churchyard, and a Blackshirt Paratroop Captain geared for peacetime ACTION who lies in a Normandy grave, now join their old comrades at rest in British Union's Roll of Honour.



Page 3 OUR BLACKSHIRT DEAD

MOSLEY'S EUROPE

'It is the age of decision in which the long striving of the European soul will reach to fulfilment, or plunge to final death. Great it is to live in this moment of Fate, because it means this generation is summoned to greatness in the service of high purpose. From the dust we rise to see a vision that came not before. All things are now possible; and all will be achieved by the final order of the European.' The Alternative

1 EUROPE

It is not systems, not finance, not economics which enslave our people, but the creations in their own minds, and none has caused more suffering and misdirection of effort in centuries of human endeavour than this failure to grasp reality in the realm of money.

Let us therefore now examine the financial direction on a global basis, and in particular, the European fiscal front. Then analyse the mounting propaganda as the voter is being manipulated, moulded and steered in multiple opinion directions. For purposes note clear to the electorate, no firm direction is being propagated. A politically divided-multiple division is the aim.

Coalition Government?

The desired next Government now being engineered would preferably — to international finance that is, be a Party Coalition Government. In this form it is more easily disposed of after it has served its purpose: the imposition of a European Central Bank in control of European 'purse-strings' and the European markets and industrial production. An E.C.B. better placed to play both sides in the coming continental upheavals now that Western Europe has been flooded with a whole generation of brain-washed communists.

There is a strong anti-E.C. element in Britain, including Parliament, a factor which is bordering

THEY HAVE DESTROYED every shred of real social cohesion in the name of 'a market consumer society'

Another old Blackshirt has something to say on another contemporary myth

'THE MARKET' MUMBO-JUMBO

by Desmond Irvine

HAVING REJECTED the real solution for the present decline and economic ruin of Great Britain, our Tory administration pretend that 'the market' is god-given. They even speak of it in that tone of reverence normally associated with homage to the Deity, and to question it or interfere in its working, in any form, is almost sacrilege, and simply 'corporatisme', or 'socialisme'.

The Tory party of today pretend there is no alternative to what is an inevitable historical fact, and they have destroyed every shred of real social cohesion in the name of 'a market consumer society'.

It is therefore an enlightenment to discover that the present impasse in the international trading system was described with precision and clarity by Dr. Johnson in a conversation with Boswell on 20 September 1773.

"Depend on it, this rage of TRADE will destroy itself. You and I shall not see it, but the time will come when there will be an end of it. TRADE IS LIKE GAMING. If a whole

company are gamblers, play must cease; for there is nothing to be won. When all nations are traders there is nothing to be gained by trade, and it will stop first where it is brought to the greatest perfection. Then the proprietors of land only will be the great men."

This is a complete argument for the Alternative, a Renaissance of the European esprit and concert, in the establish-

ment of Europe a Nation. Party schism, both Conservative and Labour but perhaps greater among Tories, so the E.C. is the one issue most likely to be promoted as a national threat above all other matters.

The recent debate in the House of Commons clearly indicates that again Britain stands alone in opposition to other governments on the future of Europe. In isolation and on the losing side, a position the Conservative Party in Government cannot afford, politically, to be exposed to alone.

Already overburdened with the Poll Tax fiasco; the N.H.S. chaos; the Education programme muddle; escalating Unemployment;

Recession — the current in-word for 'Slump' — in the face of continuing increases in production capacity; Small Business bankruptcies; Mortgaged Home-Ownership repossession ever growing. (There never was in fact 'Private Ownership'. In truth it has always been Bank or Building Society ownership). Even without the European Community issue, this pathetic record would see the Conservative Party vote in the General Election reduced to impotence.

The actual date of the coming General Election is of little consequence, but that it will occur in less than a year is virtually certain, and there are numerous signs that the

DR. JOHNSON



'Trade like gaming'
He said it all — 200 years ago

ment of Europe a Nation.

The first steps will be taken by a Government which places British leadership to that vision of renewal and national reconstruction.

● mumbo-jumbo....object of senseless veneration: Mumbo-Jumbo...supposed African idol. [Oxford Dictionary of Current English]

● DESMOND IRVINE, like our other contributor Robert Richard, was a Blackshirt.

He also was a volunteer in the T.A. and served six years in Army from day one, first in Ox & Bucks L.I. and then in 2nd Btn King's Regiment in Italy and saw action through Rome and after. Like Richard, he was wounded — at Cassino.

After the war he became very active in Union Movement and under the tutelage of his friend and mentor Raven Thomson became a speaker, and again like Richard, spent some years in a Dominion — and then — another Blackshirt returned home

timing is for November, to bring into being this new 'United' Government to represent Britain at the Maastricht December meeting of European Community Government Heads when decisions will be taken regarding Monetary Control (Euro — Central Bank — a Branch of the World Bank) and European Federation, (Brussels Bureaucracy).

In effect this would be no more than an extension of present-day parliamentary talk-shops. With neither the power nor will to action. As with present-day requirements in which no Bill can be presented to the House of Commons without the scrutiny first by the Treasury.

OUR BLACKSHIRT DEAD

John Mayes

BRITISH UNION's West Leeds Branch active member JOHN MAYES, a despatch rider in the Royal Engineers, appears to have been killed outside the gates of Bemswell RAF Station, Lincolnshire, two months after suffering the Dunkirk evacuation. The facts concerning his death are far from clear, to which should be added, that officially his death has not occurred as it not recorded in the civilian Registry of Deaths, or in the Army's Casualty List.

John Mayes is nevertheless buried with 25 airmen in the St Chads Churchyard in the nearby village of Harpswell, his grave tended by RAF, Scampton.

Former RAF personnel claim that John was killed during a Luftwaffe air raid, but local villagers suggest that his death was in a road accident.

Three times British Union Candidate for Leeds Armley and Wortley Ward in Municipal elections, John was of an all Blackshirt family. He was was the brother-in-law of Clifford Beet, former NHQ speaker and Propaganda Officer N/E Leeds Branch.

And John died with the knowledge that many of his Leeds comrades, including his brother-in-law, had already been two months incarcerated without charge in British jails, arrested as 'potential traitors' around the time that John was battling through Dunkirk.

Charles Greenwood

IT is very probable that as the seconds ticked away to the drop of the Parachute Regiment's 8th Bn. from the C-47 in the dark sky above Normandy in the early hours of D-Day, it was the last time that CHARLES GREENWOOD was seen alive.

With two other battalions of the 3rd Parachute Brigade, they had to destroy, in the heart of German defences, four bridges across the Dives river, the 9th Bn. to silence the huge gun battery at Merville.

From the start much went wrong from the start. Fourteen of the incoming aircraft were misdirected and it is believed that the battalion lost half its strength in the drop. As he is not named in the War Diary's report of D-Day's fighting, it is likely that Captain Greenwood did not survive the drop or was killed in the Dropping Zone, his body not found for 24 hours.

Give A Square Deal
Says CHARLES GREENWOOD
"FASCIST"

SELL "ACTION"

By selling Action and The Blackshirt on the streets you are not merely selling newspapers. You are selling to the public a great ideal. You can by coming out on to the streets—the more of you the better—appreciably bring near the day that Mosley is to become the Leader of Britain.

Even without a uniform you can make a display of your papers attractive to the eye. The picture shows Mr. C. E. Greenwood, of Wood Green, with the rack he has made to show off his papers to the best advantage. Note also the use he has made of poster blanks. Mr. Greenwood can teach some of you—



A BLACKSHIRT HERO

The boy stood oop on t' rostrum,
'Is stewards all 'ad fed;
'E'd bloom in' great 'igh boots on feet
And forage cap on 'ead.

'E made a rare and gallant sight
And maiden's 'earts was sad
Because they knew when brickbats flew
It boded ill for t' lad.

The platform went down with a crash,
'E cloong to it in vain;
Five 'undred feet walked over 'im
And then walked back again.

WEDDING

GREENWOOD-BILL. On Sunday May 6 1940,
at St. Michael-et-Bowen Church, Palmerston,
Kend, W. H. Charles E. Greenwood, of Edmonton,
to Margaret Hill, of Palmers Green. 2K14

Then t' police arrived—a trifle late
And scooped oop 'is remains,
Exceptin' blood which mixed with mud
'Ad flowed away down t' drains.

They buried 'im without much fuss,
Conhonooured and consung
And over 'im nasturshiums grow
(Manured with 'orses' dung).

'E was but one of oor brave crew
Addressing t' proletariat
And now e's laid 'is burden down
Oos moogs'll 'ave to carry it.

CHARLES E. GREENWOOD.

Captain Charles Greenwood,
8th Bn Parachute Regiment,
killed in action, Normandy,
7th June 1944

FOR CHARLES GREENWOOD, British Union was his life. The pages of Blackshirt shows the rest of his total commitment. We also reprint the Editorial of the first issue of the North London Mercury, a local paper of which he became Business Manager, launched by he and three other Blackshirt comrades to support British Union. The second issue was to be the last. It was August 1939.

Charles Greenwood and his British Union comrades failed to prevent that shedding of 'not one drop of British blood', including his own.

Charles Greenwood had grown to manhood in the ranks of British Union. He threw himself into all its activities and became a London speaker as well as a reporter and contributor to Blackshirt.

He became A/Propaganda Officer Enfield Branch and just before outbreak of war married Wood Green Branch's Margaret Hill. During the first months of the war, with active members going into the Forces, he became acting District Leader.

It is not known when he joined the army, but his rise was rapid. By January 1943 he was commissioned in the 2nd Warwicks and by July had been accepted in the Paras. He was promoted to T/Captain nine days before his death.

Captain Charles Greenwood was characteristic of the young men who marched with Mosley. They loved and lived British Union, Mosley and the British people.

And if necessary, die for them.

But, despite their persecution by the corrupt politicians who had caused the war, despite the lies of lesser men, they kept faith, their honour unblemished, the sacrifice of those who died unsurpassed, and in days to come men will say that they had conquered nevertheless.

FIRST IN: Parachute
Regiment officers
synchronise watches
before take-off on
D-Day



THE NORTH LONDON
MERCURY
"The Local Monthly with a Political Edge"

"Britain Awake"

EDITORIAL

Editor - J. F. Kirkwood
Sub Editor - Y. Stuart Hunter
Business Manager - C. E. Greenwood
Editorial Advisor - G. E. Thomas
Editorial Office -
Broadway House, Dares Rd., N.13.

THE World's Press News, the organ of the press, admitted on May 11th the existence of a Press ban on the activities of British Union. This follows the recent announcement of a B.B.C. ban in the "Evening Standard." And still they babble of 'freedom'! There exists against British Union the most highly organised 'news' boycott the world has yet seen, and only the still small voice of honest local journals endeavours to give the people the truth they demand. As every other Party in the country has its 'support' in the Press it is only fitting that a paper should exist to support and present for fair consideration the policy of British Union. That is the purpose of the "Mercury." The "Mercury" is NOT a British Union publication, but it is founded and will be maintained by a group of fair-minded individuals who sincerely believe that British Union is the only Movement capable of tackling and solving the problems of a modern Britain, and feel that the people have the right to the opportunity of studying British Union policy, as theirs to accept or reject. The "Mercury" will speak out and hit hard, without fear or favour. We shall make many enemies. At the same time we hope to make many more friends. We present to you the first issue of the "North London Mercury"—write and tell us what you think of it!

NEVER AGAIN.

It is but twenty years since the blood and sweat of a generation of British manhood was shed in agony on foreign fields. Yet once again the Old Men of Westminster are blundering towards another holocaust. The same Old Men whose promises to the returned heroes remain unfulfilled. Twenty years of unemployment, incompetence and corruption testify to the foul betrayal of those who fought in a "war to end wars" that Britain might live in greatness and in glory. The same high-sounding phrases and slobbering platitudes roll from the lips of Old Gang politician and non-combatant warmonger.

Steadily the cannon-fodder is prepared for the slaughter by the insidious propaganda of the Finance-controlled Press. Twenty years ago these immortal words were born:—
Take up our quarrel with the foe,
To you from falling hands we throw the torch,
Be yours to hold it high;
If ye break faith with us who die,
We shall not sleep,
Though poppies grow in Flanders fields.

The politicians have broken faith, but their treachery shall not prevail. British Union has sworn that not one drop of British blood shall be shed in any but a British quarrel. Britons shall not die for International Finance! In British Union is born again the living spirit of those who felt that our land might live. WE SHALL NOT BREAK FAITH!

The Editor.

'Great' Men of Our Time

WINSTON CHURCHILL



by PETER MARCY

A SOLDIER and journalist in India, Egypt and South Africa, Winston Churchill became MP for Oldham in 1900. When Joseph Chamberlain advocated the abolition of Free Trade Churchill switched to the Liberals and joined Asquith's Cabinet in 1908. At the outbreak of war in 1914 Churchill held the rank of First Lord of the Admiralty.

On 27 September 1914 a German army of 125,000 men launched an attack on the Belgian city of Antwerp. On 3 October, just as the Belgians were preparing to evacuate Antwerp, Winston Churchill arrived with a promise of British help in the form of naval brigades and heavy guns. That same day, 2,200 British marines arrived and were followed on 5 and 6 October by 6,000 poorly-equipped men of the Royal Naval Division.

The Germans launched a ferocious bombardment with heavy guns with the consequence that the city surrendered on 9 October. In this, the first of Churchill's many reckless military adventures, British losses were 37 killed, 193 wounded, 1,560 interned in Holland and 800 prisoners.

Three months later, when the Russian Government appealed for British help against Turkish pressure in the Caucasus, it was Churchill who pressed for a campaign to reach Constantinople and open up the Black Sea. The 29th Division, needed urgently in France, was switched at Churchill's insistence to Gallipoli.

Between 25 April 1915 and 8 January 1916, 468,987 men of the British Forces were engaged in the Campaign. Of these 33,522 were killed, 7,636 missing and 78,420 wounded. The French with 80,000 men there suffered

'It is quite possible to be a most likeable man and yet be the most disastrous politician in English history; in terms of world catastrophe and human suffering perhaps the worst in all history'

Mosley on Churchill

similar casualties.

Lord Kitchener had thought that the southern part of the Gallipoli Peninsula "was open to a landing on very easy terms" and so the landing, instead of being made on the highly vulnerable Asiatic coast, took place at the mountainous tip of the peninsula. The firepower and number of the opposing Turkish force had been greatly underestimated and the opening naval attack in February and March had resulted only in the heavy loss of men and ships. The one success of the entire campaign was the evacuation in which only one soldier was wounded. In every respect Gallipoli had been a total disaster.

Dismissed from office because of his part in the Gallipoli fiasco, Churchill was made Minister of

BLACKSHIRT SEAMAN WATSON, whose story of his death in action in *HMS Hardy* in the First Battle of Narvik we told in the last COMRADE, is recalled by his old District Leader; old comrade WILLIAM SEDDON reminisces on his experiences as an AB in Northern Norwegian waters in *HMS Escapade*, and PETER MARCY writes on Churchill's part in that disastrous Norwegian Campaign, and further reflects on the life of that architect of disaster

The last day of Seaman Watson

'INTEND ATTACKING AT DAWN... signalled the

Munitions in 1917 by Lloyd George.

In 1923 Churchill, having previously lost at Dundee, lost his seat at Leicester, whereupon he decided that it was in his interest to switch back to the Conservatives. At the General Election of 1924, he was elected for Epping. For 5 years he was Chancellor of the Exchequer, in which post he made the decision to return to the Gold Standard. The consequent distress this caused led to the 1926 General Strike.

The French Premier, Aristide Briand, had worked hard for Franco-German reconciliation. In 1926 Churchill turned down Briand's and Stresemann's proposals to alleviate the burden of German war debts. The resultant years of economic misery in Germany contributed to the rise of Nazis.

When war broke out in September 1939 Churchill once more became First Lord of the Admiralty. The unsuccessful Norwegian Campaign in April 1940 resulted in Chamberlain's resignation and his replacement by the man who had pressed for it, and sent British forces there without adequate

equipment - Churchill.

On 3 July 1940, after the Franco-German armistice, Churchill ordered the destruction of a large part of the French Fleet by a battle squadron led by the world's largest warship, the 42,000 ton *Hood*. After the French commander at Oran had refused to surrender his ships there began an aerial and naval bombardment that caused the death of more than 1,000 French sailors. Many French servicemen who had escaped from Dunkirk were so incensed by this cruel action that they refused to continue the fight from Britain. They were interned in prisoner-of-war camps and later repatriated.

When Germany invaded Russia on 22 June 1941 Churchill at once declared that he would give the Soviet Union all the help he could. In the Balkans he gave massive military support to the Communist Tito instead of the Royalist guerrilla General Mikhailovitch and his 150,000 fighters who had forced the Germans to divert 10 Divisions to Yugoslavia.



HIROSHIMA: The bomb - and after. 80,000 civilians died in this test-bed for the world's mightiest new weapon, 'the greatest scientific discovery in history', after Churchill and Truman had rejected 'inconvenient' Japanese peace proposals

'A brave lad- full of guts'

I WELL RECALL the young **CYRIL WATSON** whose death in action was featured in the last *Comrade*.

He was only 14 when he joined my N/E Leeds Branch of British Union in 1934 along with his uncle **Harry Butterfield** who was only a few years his senior. In 1937 he was transferred to Central Leeds District under **Bert Rimington**.

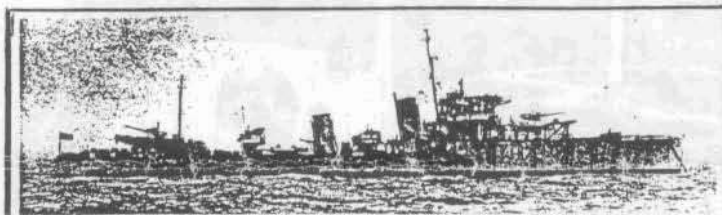
When he joined the Cadet Force had not been formed so he was absorbed into the general membership and played his part in most of the activities. He attended the Hyde Park Rally in 1934, marching between myself and his uncle. Being so young he was a bit apprehensive, but he was a brave lad, full of guts, and he soon composed himself. He was also present at the 'bloody' Holbeck Moor meeting, like the other Leeds youngster killed in action in the RAF's raid on the Kembs Dam that was featured in *Comrade*, Pilot Officer **Dennis Lucan D.F.M.**

I know not when he entered the Navy, but he was probably a volunteer as I believe his father was RN and he would probably have followed in his footsteps. I had a drink with his uncle around 1942 after my release from the Isle of Man's Peveral Concentration Camp. He was then in the army and I never saw or heard from him again.

Perhaps he is another of those missing Mosley young men who died in the war they had fought to prevent and will one day be found and returned home to British Union's Roll of Honour? R.B

1940: The Second Battle of Narvik

- old comrade remembers



HMS Escapade

IT WAS early April 1940, and I had served the first three months of the year, one of the coldest winters on record this century, in a destroyer engaged on North Sea convoy duties between **Methil**, Fife to the limit of Norwegian Territorial waters off the port of Bergen. We had to cruise around until the **Methil** bound convoy came out of neutral waters.

Suddenly that all changed with the German invasion of Denmark and Norway and my ship was one of a large force of the Danish coast engaging the enemy. One day we spent mostly at action stations, and one day I recall coming up on deck for a breath of fresh air from my post in the aftershell room when an enemy aircraft dropped a bomb on the fore-deck of one of the most powerful ships in the Royal Navy, raising what looked like a crowd of dust but **HMS Rodney** sailed majestically on.

After the engagement, instead of returning to **Methil**, we made for **Solen Voe** in the Shetland Islands to take

bunkers, a place I had never heard of. There was a sign of Spring in the air and at nightfall we sailed in a force led by the cruiser **HMS Southampton**. I was a helmsman but was not given a destination: just follow the cruiser.

After steaming at full speed for over two days we anchored off the Norwegian Port of **Hardstadt** where we engaged in ferrying troops off the Polish liner **Batory** and the P.S.N.C.'s elegant **Reina del Pacifico** during which we escaped unscathed when the peace and quiet of the fiord was shattered by an attack of enemy bombers.

Our next task was an A.S. patrol at the entrance of **Ofofjord** when **Vice-Admiral Whitworth** flying his flag on **HMS Warspite** and some of our most powerful destroyers steamed up the fiord to attack enemy ships in what was to be the **Second Battle of Narvik**. Several enemy ships were sunk or damaged and all ours returned from the attack, but not unscathed. It was considered as avenging the first battle when we suffered the loss of

HMS Hardy and **HMS Hunter** But the Germans still held **Narvik**.

Later we were despatched up the fjord to search for spent torpedoes fired during the battle which had failed to hit the target and believed to have run aground, and it was with a thankful heart that we secured in **Rosyth** later in May.

It was only then that I became aware of the disasters sustained by our forces during that ill fated campaign.

W. Seddon A.B.

H.M.S. ESCAPADE H17

July 1939 to December 1940

● One U-boat and eight large German destroyers - unable to escape from **Narvik** after the first battle three days earlier [Comrade April/May] - were lost in the second battle in the afternoon of April 13 1940. Serious damage was sustained to three British ships in the 15-inch gun battleship **Warspite** led force of nine destroyers.

But, as our contributor says: 'the Germans still held **Narvik**' and although at the end of May a 24,500 Anglo-French-Polish force did land and capture the town, it was abandoned a week later for by then German Panzer armies in France were racing through Anglo-French armies towards the Channel ports.

"That ill fated campaign", so aptly described by Mr. Seddon, was described by its architect and executor Churchill, then First Lord of the Admiralty and Chairman of the Military Co-ordination Committee, in different terms after the German invasion of Norway in response to his mining of Norwegian Territorial waters down which came their iron ore from Sweden.

It was then, for Hitler, "a major strategic mistake".

And so it might have been. Norway was held as a major asset until the end of the war for which Churchill's blunders and interference with naval and military operations were largely responsible.

Ed.

cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki would be the test-

CHURCHILL

In the Far East, the battleships **Prince of Wales** (only completed in 1940) and the **Repulse** were sunk by Japanese aircraft because Churchill ignored warnings that Japan's occupation of naval bases in Thailand and French Indo-China had made defence impossible. Seven hundred sailors were lost. These casualties were comparatively light, but Japan now controlled the Pacific.

Churchill who all along had regarded Italy as 'the soft underbelly of the Axis' did not think the Germans would defend Italy after its unconditional surrender in September 1943: the campaign from

Salerno to Bologna proved to be one of the hardest fought and most costly campaigns of the entire War.

Many historians believe that the war in the West could have ended two years earlier, saving untold numbers of civilian and military casualties, but for the policy of "Unconditional Surrender", which the Germans felt left them with no alternative but to fight on.

At Yalta in March 1945, where Churchill, Roosevelt and Stalin carved up the post-war world, Churchill abandoned support of the Polish Government in Exile and accepted a Communist controlled "Polish Provis-

ional Government of National Unity"; the handing over to Russia of Japan's Sakhalin and Kurile Islands, the re-establishment of Port Arthur as a Russian naval base, and part control by Russia of the Manchurian Railway.

At the conference of the victorious powers at Potsdam in July 1945, when a 'peace feeler' arrived from Tokyo, Churchill, before being replaced by new Prime Minister Attlee, ignored advice that Japan would surrender if the Emperor be permitted to remain on the throne.

Churchill and new US President Truman, replacing the dead Roosevelt, had agreed that the Japanese

LOOKING BACK



JOHN GARNETT, the largest with the smallest: Right, Captain BRIAN DONOVAN: below, a small Cadet 'takes' OM for a swim



A clip from an amateur film-maker on holiday in 1937 showing shots of Mosley and his Blackshirts in camp at Selsey, Sussex, was seen in the current BBC2 TV series 'Cine Memo' recently.

As John Garnett, the Asst. Commandant of the Camp is in our Obituary, and the Camp Commandant, Captain Brian Donovan enters our In Memoriam column in this issue, it is an occasion to look back at those days of joy and laughter when the Blackshirt Movement, striving for their Greater Britain, brought a hope for the future for



thousands of Britain's sons, and within its ranks achieved the true classless brotherhood, experienced in fullness in the Blackshirt Camps, where for a brief moment Mosley's Blackshirts paused in their struggle to relax in their own comradeship, and for one day share it with their Leader.

2 EUROPE

There is little doubt that the December E.C. meeting will decide in favour of bringing into effect:-

- [1] A Single Currency; (What does it matter whatever it is called? Money is no more a mechanism for the purchase of goods and service.)
- [2] A Central Bank; (Current discussions appear to indicate that what is proposed is a 'EuroFed' akin to the American Federal Reserve system. In effect NOT an agency of government, but an arcane cartel of international banks independent of elected government control.)
- [3] Federal Union of the European Community. (Most politicians and genuine economists, whilst fully aware of the modus operandi we call parliamentary democracy, subservient to the all-powerful banking hierarchy, are unlikely to come out in public opposition for fear of jeopardizing their careers. Another step towards the planned? New World Order!)

So it is likely to be: "All Parties must unite" to save Britain's 'Sovereignty'. Orchestrated propaganda engineered to cause fearfulness and confusion among the voters, whether Left or Right, will begin to dominate the media. Disinformation and all the other tricks will be the order of day-to-day news, timed to bring into being a Coalition Government to represent Britain in the E.C.

If Mosley was still with us today he would be foremost among the so-called 'Euro-sceptics'.

For the "Greater Britain" he wrote in 1932 now read 'Greater Europe'. The scenario is the same, only the scale is different. It will be equally valid in 1992.

5 CHURCHILL

bed for the world's mightiest new weapon, the atom bomb, hailed by British and American scientists as the greatest scientific discovery in history.

The Japanese proposals were most inconvenient, but as he Allied ultimatum demanded complete and unconditional surrender, the Japanese proposal to retain their Emperor was enough for it to be rejected.

Eighty thousand Japanese

civilians died from the the bomb on Hiroshima on August 6, and forty thousand at Nagasaki three days later. Tens of thousands were to die later from injuries and long-term effects of radiation.

And Hirohito remained Emperor for forty more years.

In 1942 Churchill had declared: "I have not become the King's first minister in order to preside over the liquidation of the British Empire".

Yet it was his policies that brought this about, and the reduction of Great Britain - that Britain whose Empire had covered 'one-quarter of the globe' and on which 'the sun never set' - to a Soviet or American satellite.

● "Some things are best forgotten; but Churchill's most flagrant follies can neither be condoned nor forgotten, for millions had their lives blighted through his reckless leadership....

Those followers of Mosley who opposed Churchill's war before the actual clash of arms, and were imprisoned by him for voicing their apprehensions, are today more certain than ever that they were right in the stand they made.

The shadow of the ruins of the British Empire must have chilled his declining

1 AND ONE CAME HOME

After spending in later years several years in a Dominion he has now retired to his native North and has recently completed for FOM Historical Archives the history of British Union's Newcastle Branch, and some time before the event, correctly predicted Mrs. Thatcher's demise. [Comrade Apr/May 1991]

He holds the T.A. and C.D. Corps Long Service Medals and in 1953 was presented with the Queen's Coronation Medal for voluntary service during the Flood Disasters of North Devon and East Coast in 1952 and 1953.

It is fitting that he is featured in the issue in which our Blackshirt comrade CAPTAIN CHARLES GREENWOOD returns home in our Roll of Honour.

For both Mosley men in the early hours of June 6 1944 were parachuting into Normandy - Greenwood in the 8th Btn and Richard in the 12th Btn Parachute Regiment - the first shock troops in the invasion of Fortress Europe.

One was to die in action within 24 hours. Richard survive the drop to fight in the vital battle to capture the village of Breville, taken at the cost of 141 men.

And so, as a battle casualty, Robert Richard came home.

years for he, beyond most Englishmen with his love and knowledge of history, must have understood in the end the havoc initiated by himself and concluded by Roosevelt. He, who had been so proud of the Empire, became the wanton instrument of its destruction; but there is no record of which I am aware of his uttering one word of remorse or regret."

● British Union historian Richard Reynell Bellamy's unpublished manuscript "We Marched With Mosley"

History might ignore those pioneers of the Fascist Union of British Workers but they are part of the political history of the Mosley Movement but we remember them for their contribution to the Mosley and British Union legacy left for those to come.

IN MEMORIAM

BAINES, Derek Talbot: early Blackshirt: BUF '1' Squad. **Summer 1961**
BARROW, David: BU: UM speaker and Organiser, Oxford. **August 1980**
BELLAIRS, Comdr. Carlyon R.N.: Lecturer R.Naval College: former MP
 Kings Lynn and Maidstone: British Union: 'Action' contributor.

22 August 1955

BELAMY, R.R. 'Dick': British Union Northern Organiser & Movement's
 historians: at 87. **15 August 1988**

BENNETT, Charles: former Mayor Bethnal Green: Chairman BG British
 Legion: N/E BG British Union. **June 1939**

BONHAM, William James: Plating, Manchester British Union. **July 1939**
BOX, H. Westminster St. George BU: founder member London Cab Trade
 Group. **9 August 1939**

BROWN, Charles: BU D/L Wavertree, Liverpool: 18B Political Prisoner:
 UM Organiser, Salford. **June 1962**

BROWNING, Kenneth Thomas: Exeter British Union: kin and friend of
 of D/Leader Jack Forward: RAF World War II. **5 June 1969**

BROWNING, Guy: Ealing Branch British Union, one of five Blackshirt
 brothers. An 18B British Political Prisoner when his brother
 Clement was in German concentration camp where he was to die.

2 August 1965

BROWNING, Maurice: Ealing Branch British Union, another of the five
 Blackshirt brothers. **11 July 1970**

CHAMBERLAIN, John: member Blackshirt family Limehouse Br. British
 Union: gunner RA, Egypt, Italy, Palestine WWII. **June 1981**

CHARLES, D.E.: British Union NHQ staff. **August 1936**

CLARKE, Bill: Union Movement Treasurer NW London 1970/4. **June 1989**

CLARKE, Pat: Grantham Br. British Union. **June 1937**

CRAFTS, Bill: Bury, Lancs Br. British Union & Un. Movement. **July 1975**

CROSS, E.G. Bristol Cent. Br. British Union: drowned attempting rescue
 small boy from wharf: parents posthumously awarded Carnegie
 Hero Fund Memorial Certificate for his sacrifice. **13 August 1935**

de LAESSA, Maj. DSO MC: British Union: 18B Political Prisoner with
 Mrs de Laessa: a founder member Norwich and King's Lynn Union
 Movement. **August 1948**

DOMVILLE, Adm Sir Barry, KBE CB CMG: former Dir. Naval Intelligence
 & Pres. R.N. College: founder Anglo-German 'Link': comrade 18B
 Political Prisoner with Lady Domville and son: a son killed in
 action, Crete: Author *From Admiral to Cabin Boy*: **13 August 1971**

DONOVAN, Capt. B.D.E.: British Union Asst. Dir. General 1940: 18B
 Political Prisoner: married to Westminster St. Georges Wom. D/Ldr
 & Womens Drum Corps Drum Major Heather Bond: At 87. **26 July 1985**

DOHRA, Joe: Hackney British Union: Merchant Navy WW2. **26 August 1988**

DOWDY, John: British Union Parl. Cand. Evesham: Union M: Worcester-
 shire National Farmers Union. **July 1978**

EVANS, E.C. 'Bobby': Upminster, former Sth. Lond. BU & UM: **17 August 1986**

FIELD, Bill: nearly member N/Lond. UM after army: at 67: **31 August 1984**

GOUGH, Joseph 'Bowie': Birmingham British Union Drum Corps: 18B
 Political Prisoner after army Dunkirk evacuation. **July 1963**

GOUGH, Victor: son of 'Bowie': 18B Political Prisoner then RAF.

17 June 1978

HANLOCK, Alan: Sussex printer: Croydon British Union. **July 1989**

HART, E.D.: Research Dept. British Union: edited *Action* briefly 1940
 after editor detained then he detained 18B Political Prisoner:
 Pioneer of Union Movement. **August 1950**

HOGGARTH, Miss Cecilia: sister of George, British Union District Tr.
 Eye, Suffolk, and of Patricia. **31 August 1990**

HOLLINGTON, 'Aunt Naud': East London BU & UM: at 100. **August 1987**

HUDSON, Comdr. C.E. OBE RD FRM Rtd: British Union D/Ldr Bognor: 18B
 Camp Leader Huxton Concentration Camp. **June 1948**

JENKS, Jordan: British Union Agricultural Adv.: Parl. Cand. Horsham and
 Worthing: 18B Political Prisoner: UM Agricultural Council.

20 August 1963

KACE, Reg: Wiltshire: former Brit. Union A/D/L Epping. **August 1988**

MOSLEY, Maud Lady: Loyal supporter and mother of O.M.: Head of
 of Womens BUF in early days. **20 June 1948**

NICHOLS, Tommy: South London British Union. **June 1981**

PARFITT, W.J.: age 20: Spelthorne, Yorks. British Union. **August 1936**

PODHOPE, Harold: Canada: former Norfolk British Union and London
 District Inspector. **August 1988**

ROHLANDS, Mrs Martha: at 92: mother of BU & UM Jack. **August 1977**

SCOTT, George: Br. Union D/L Richmond, Surrey: 18B Political Prisoner:
28 July 1978

SHELMERDINE, Philip: Agent for BU Candidate Middleton and Prest-
 wich Bye-Election 1940: 18B Political Prisoner: victim of M15s
 Camp 020 Interrogation Centre. Post-war in Holy Orders. **14 July 1987**

STEER, Eric: Br. Union Mitcham speaker: 18B Political Prisoner.

26 August 1954

TAYLOR, Barry: Shoreditch Union M.: husband of Vicky. **July 1961**

TAYLOR, Pats: Top woman racing driver: joined British Union 1939:
 18B Political Prisoner 1940: UM: loyal supporter Mosley till end.

2 August 1983

TEMPLE COTTON, Rafe: Brit. Union Nat. Inspector, Devon: Parl. Candidate
 Exeter. **18 June 1985**

THOMSON, Palmer: Aylesbury Brit. Union: Died in Walton Jail as 18B
 Political Prisoner. **June 1940**

TRESADEN, George: Early E/London UM supporter, brother of Arthur
 'Uncle' Tresaden: at 93. **3 June 1989**

VERALL, Stan: speaker Essex British Union: RAF WW2: South Lond-
 on Union Movement. **June 1989**

WAINWRIGHT, William: father of H.S. Wainwright: Head of Wainwright
 Brush Factories, Bow, East London: at 87. **30 June 1955**

WARD, Charles: One of first Birmingham Blackshirts: father of
 S.C.O. Ward of BUF NHQ. **August 1934**

WARRETT, Mrs: Shoreditch Br. Union: local election candidate. **June 1938**

WATTS, C.F. 'Charlie': Br. Union D/Insp. Westminster St. George: Organ-
 iser: 18B Political Prisoner and BU Camp Leader Ascot Concen-
 tration Camp: victim of M15s Camp 020 Interrogation Centre: one
 time RAF barrack room comrade of Aircraftman Shaw (Lawrence of
 Arabia) **26 August 1971**

WHEELWRIGHT, F.E. Ladywood, Birmingham British Union. **15 June 1936**

WILLIAMSON, Henry: NHQ Br. British Union: UM: author *Tarka the Otter*
Flax of Dream, *Chronicle of Ancient Sunlight*, *Sun in the Sands*,
Story of a Norfolk Farm etc: **13 August 1987**

OBITUARIES

JOHN GARNETT

A FEAST OF MEMORIES of
 British Union history
 crowd in as we report the
 death, peacefully at 83, of
JOHN GARNETT on May 24th.



Joining the BUF
 in 1933 follow-
 a spell as a
 policeman, and
 a schoolmaster
 after the coll-
 apse of his
 father's firm

in the crash of Lancashire
 cotton industry, he was by
 1935 National Organiser for
 Midlands and E/Anglia, and
 later became National Insp-
 ector for the Region, a
 duty in which, from 1938, he
 doubled up with his post of
 Administrator of Reception
 and Enrolment at NHQ, and
 Organiser of National
 Transport. He had been
 Election Agent for Bethnal
 Green candidates in the LOC
 Election of 1937, and was
 to become the Prospective
 Parliamentary Candidate
 for Harwich.

Later he was to marry
 Miss Margaret Monk, who had
 been from 1934, O.M.'s
 secretary at National HQ.

HYWEL EDWARDS

WE REGRET to report the
 death in April of Birming-
 ham's **HYWEL EDWARDS**, who
 although the height of his
 activity had been with
 Union Movement in the
 1960s he never ceased, in
 his own way, to propagate
 Mosley's ideas.

Until last year, when his
 failing health prevented
 it, he was a regular
 attendee at the Commem-
 oration Dinner which he found
 gave him great inspir-
 ation, as did 'Comrade'
 which he believed 'breathed
 the spirit and meaning of
 all that Mosley had, and
 will ever stand for'.

His last letter: 'Carry
 on the good work'.

We will.

CORRECTION

PETER MARCY points out that in his
 story of 'Pam' Valeriani, [Comrade
 Feb/March], that it was at Lord
 Alfred Douglas's trial in 1923 - 6
 months for libelling Churchill -
 that Pam was his witness and not
 the Oscar Wilde trial in 1895.

Quite right Pam would have
 been eight!

Old Comrades



CONGRATULATIONS

RELATED Congratulations to
CYRIL and PEGGY FLASKETT who
 celebrated their Golden
 Wedding in April. They were
 married after Cyril's release
 from 18B political imprison-
 ment in 1941.

Cyril was one of the four
 founders of British Union's
 first East London branch and
 later became deputy to N/E
 Bethnal Green's Mick Clarke,
 D/Leader of what was to be-
 come the Movement's largest
 branch. When Mick was
 'kicked upstairs' to NHQ,
 Cyril took over as D/L and
 later District Inspector.

The Editor apologises for
 overlooking Cyril's import-
 ant day - but so did Cyril!

He was alas quite serious-
 ly ill in hospital. We are
 pleased to report he is
 now well on the way to re-
 covery - like the Editor.

What was it the Leader
 said on his British Union
 comrades?

"We always come back!"

Brian Donovan

BRIAN DONOVAN, whose death in
 1985 joins our MEMORIAM in
 this issue, was British Union
 Asst. Director General (A). He
 was an able administrator,
 and although not a propagand-
 ist was always present, with
 Dir. General Francis-Hawkins,
 flanking Mosley on the im-
 portant and often dangerous
 British Union marches.

Cork born, he volunteered
 for Army when 16 at outbreak
 of 1914 war and saw action in
 France, later fighting in
 Arabia with T.E. Lawrence
 where he was commissioned.
 After the war he was in ac-
 tion with the 129th D.C.O.
 Baluchis in the Third Afghan
 War.

He joined BUF in 1933 and
 worked his way up through
 ranks. After outbreak of war
 he married Heather Bond who
 was Drum Major in Womens Drum
 Corps and Womens D/L West-
 minster St. George's. Both were
 detained in 1940, Donovan for
 4½ years. After the war he
 experienced great hardship
 for many years due to left-
 wing harassment, losing job
 after job, approaching middle
 age, with a wife and three
 small children to support he
 withdrew from politics. He
 later became a Tertiary of
 the Lay Order of the Carm-
 lites at Aylesford Priory.

The Commemoration Dinner

Saturday November 16

The Leader's Birthday

MAKE AN EARLY RESERVATION

COMRADE

Newsletter of Friends of O.M.

No.31 September-November 1991

'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'



YOU WILL NOT break up Soviet Russia by a military attack from outside. I think that in the end the Soviet Empire will break up under the political battle which will occur. Mosley: Bethnal Green, 12 November 1956

Soviet Collapse

MOSLEY

The One Man Who Got it Right



ALTHOUGH a British Prime Minister had said she could 'do business with him' and his 'glasnost' and 'perestroika' - catchwords of the public relations exercise of 'Communism with the human face' - had been successfully sold to the West, Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev was at the same time telling the Party faithful at the 1987 70th Anniversary of the October Revolution in Moscow: "We are moving towards a new world, the world of Communism. We will never turn off that road."

four years ago the break-up of the Soviet 'Empire', or even a year ago, the demise of the 70 year old regime in the Russian homeland? A question now put frequently throughout the Western world by commentators, Kremlin watchers, university professors, political pundits and world leaders.

Who indeed?

One man alone foresaw the events now rapidly transforming the world. And not a year, not even four years ago, but nearly forty years ago. The same man who had earlier seen, and his warnings disregarded, that war with Germany over the Polish surrounded German city of Danzig was one which neither could win. Britain would be shorn of power, lose her Empire, and a Soviet colossus bestraddling Europe. The man, Oswald Mosley.

2

LEST WE FORGET

MOSLEY'S MESSAGE
September 1 1939

The Government of Britain goes to war, with the agreement of all the Parliamentary Parties. British Union stands for peace. Neither Britain nor her Empire is threatened. Therefore British Government intervenes in an alien quarrel. In this situation we of British Union will do our utmost to persuade our British people to make peace....

To our members my message is plain and clear. Our country is involved in war. Therefore I ask you to do nothing to injure our country, or to help any other power.

Our members should do what the law requires of them, and if they are members of any of the Forces or Services of the Crown, they should obey their orders, and, in every particular, obey the rules of their Service.....

HIS BLACKSHIRTS

50 years on
In Comrade
Their duty
seen to be done

Four years later his attempts to renew the regime that survived only through the belief and practise of extreme terror on those it ruled - the most brutal in modern times - has ended in disaster and he is lucky to have escaped with his neck.

In the Soviet subject states of eastern Europe, gobbled up in the aftermath of the last war - with some help of another British Prime Minister, Churchill, who believed he could 'do business' with the then Soviet incumbent, Joseph Stalin, who according to Churchill was to shape "new freedom and glory for all mankind" - the peoples in a universal outburst of the human spirit, cast of the chains of 40 years enslavement, and in the Soviet homeland, smelling the breath of freedom, the peoples brought the whole rotten edifice tumbling down.

Who could have foreseen

'Half a crown and a pair of boots'

by FRED BAILEY

AT A CONFERENCE of Historians held on May Day at London University to discuss the 1936 Cable Street Riot, veteran members of the London District of the Communist Party revealed that many innocent dockers had been seduced into British Union by Mosley's tempting offer of half a crown and a pair of boots.

(Providing footwear for all members of the family was a very real problem for working-class families in those days, and boots did indeed have quite a value)

For years we Blackshirts have tried desperately to conceal this shameful secret, but I suppose the only honourable thing to do now is to reveal all:

THESE BOOTS WERE NOT NEW!
In fact they were
EXTREMELY VALUABLE
ANTIQUES!

6

1939 British Union 1945 ROLL OF HONOUR

BROCKING, George T., 20, and **DAY, Kenneth G.**: RAF 9 Sqn: Black-shirt AC2 voluntary air-gunners killed in action Wellington L4275 bombing German Fleet, Brunsbüttel, Keil Canal, 4 September 1939. Brocking remembered on Air Force Memorial, Runnymede. Day lies Becklingen War Cemetery, Germany.

Kenneth Day was the First Casualty, followed by **George Brocking**, on the First Casualty List of World War II

BANGS, Lt. Jack P.L.: R/Sussex Regt. (Att. Gloucesters): 20: Killed in action 3 November 1944: Brighton Br. British Union: Lies Iles Gool War Cemetery, Belgium

BUCKNELL, Sgt. Ronald: RAF (VR) 83 Sqn.: Croydon Br. British Union: 24: killed in action Berlin operation 15 November 1944 Remembered on Air Force Memorial, Runnymede

GILLIES W/O John H.: RAF (VR) 511 Sqn: Leytonstone Br. British Union: 26: killed on ops. 30 November 1943 remembered on Air Force Memorial, Runnymede

LIND, Pte W.P.: REME reservist: Norwood Br. British Union: killed in action, Normandy, 27 October 1944. Remembered Services Panel, Norwood Cemetery

LUCAN, P/O Dennis DFM: RAF (VR) 207 and 617 'Dambuster' Sqn: 21: N/E Leeds Br. British Union: killed in action over Kembs Dam 7 October 1944: lies in Dornbach War Cemetery, Germany

WHITE, Lt. Albert E RNVR: Leicester Br. British Union: 36: miss-HMS Trawler "Northern Rover" 5 November 1939: remembered Lowestoft War Memorial

YEATHAN, F.J.: St/Sgt Glider Pilot Regt. Army Air Corps: Exeter British Union: 28: killed in action Arnhem 24 September 1944. Lies in Oosterbeek War Cemetery, Netherlands

"What though we ourselves are smitten,
This, our faith, can never die!"

'Great' Men of Our Time

JOSEPH STALIN

by PETER MARCY



IT WAS at the funeral of his first wife in 1907 that Stalin made the most significant statement of his career. In words that were both moving and menacing he said to a friend who remembered them for the rest of his life: "She was the one creature who softened my heart of stone. She is dead, and with her have died my last warm feelings for humanity."

Stalin's much publicised studentship at the Orthodox Seminary in Tiflis was entirely due to his deeply religious mother. His interest was in Marxism, not religion. In 1898 at the age of 19 he was expelled for refusing to sit for his examinations, and thereafter devoted himself to revolutionary activities. In 1903 he was sent to Siberia. By 1913 he had been arrested seven times, exiled to Siberia six times, and had escaped five times. Once in power, Stalin made sure that escaping was never again so easy.

After the 1905 revolution Stalin organised the robbery of Government transports. In 1912 he helped set up the new Bolshevik newspaper, *Pravda*. Called up for the army in December 1916, he escaped military service because of a semi-paralysed arm.

With the February 1917 revolution Stalin became a free man, a member of the central committee of the Bolshevik Party, a contributor to *Pravda*, and one of the chief organisers of the October Revolution. From the formation of the Soviet Government Stalin held the post of Commissar for Nationalities and in 1921 organised the brutal reconquest of Georgia, then independent.

In 1922 he was elected General Secretary of the Central Committee and later used this position to make himself dictator when Lenin died in 1924. Trotsky was expected to succeed him, but

in the life and death struggle that ensued Trotsky was ousted, banished, expelled from Russia and finally assassinated in Mexico. By 1926 Stalin had eliminated Kamenev and Zinoviev - the two men who had helped him get rid of Trotsky, and finally got rid of them in the show trials of 1936.

The murder on December 1, 1934 of Serge Kirov, Stalin's party leader in Leningrad, ushered in five years of unprecedented terror. By December 30, 117 persons had been executed and by 1938 almost the whole military and political elite had been destroyed, while millions of ordinary Russians languished in prisons. From 1928, Stalin's forced collectivisation had led to the death of millions more by execution as well as famine.

For the last 20 years of his life Stalin lived in constant fear of assassination. He trusted no-one - neither his closest associates nor his own relatives - for even his own relatives were killed by him. If he had the slightest trust in anyone - that person was - Adolf Hitler! Stalin ignored repeated British warnings that Hitler was preparing to attack, preferring to believe that the transfer of the Luftwaffe



Trotsky, once Stalin's rival, lies dying from brain damage after RAMON MERCADER, a Stalin assassin posing as Trotsky supporter, had smashed his head in with an ice pick in Mexico City in 1940

'GREAT' DAYS FOR THE TWO 'GREATS'

"It was a good happy, boisterous party, and it got louder and more boisterous as it went on. Churchill was having a fine time and, after he had gotten quite a few toasts under his belt, he rose, glowing, and heaped praise on Stalin, working himself into such a state of eloquence that the only way he could come to a suitably sooko finish was to proclaim the Russian Leader 'Stalin the Great.'"

But not Great Britain

"The Potsdam Conference provided as convenient point as any other to mark the end of the British Empire. The sterling bloc was finished;...the United States was busily taking the Middle East away from Britain; Churchill's plans to draw Western Europe around British Leadership had been reduced to blather; the British economy was shattered; the British people were exhausted by the war;...."

Meeting at Potsdam Charles L. Mee Jr

from West to East was to avoid bombing by the RAF.

Immediately after the German attack on June 22, 1941 Stalin suffered a nervous collapse. For the next 4 days he refused to answer the telephone, issued no orders and drank himself into a stupor. It was not until 11 days later that his faltering voice was heard on the radio.

As the *Sunday Express* wrote on 25 August 1991: "....Stalin's stupidity and greed almost led to total defeat by Hitler in a matter

of weeks. By what was little short of a miracle, Stalin failed to kill all his com-etant generals and was saved from a Berlin show trial by the troops of Yuri Zhukov."

And one might add: 'General Winter'.

In the Spring of 1953, just as he was planning another great blood-bath, Stalin died suddenly of a brain haemorrhage. So it is said!

But the Cold War continued and Russian reform had to wait another 40 years.

1 Soviet Collapse

His remarkable prediction of the Soviet break-up in Bethnal Green in 1956, at a time when Soviet tanks were brutally crushing the brave Hungarian revolt, hanging rebels from lamp-posts and the Danube bridges, was a confirmation of even earlier recorded forecast.

Writing in *The European Situation* in March 1950 at the height of the Cold War - the Russians had in the previous six months ended their Berlin blockade, set up the Russian troops controlled eastern German Democratic Republic and tested the A-bomb: "This war will be begun by the Soviets.... they have already begun it in the cruder forms. (It) will end with the passing of the Soviets from Europe. They seek to infiltrate their opponents and to destroy their power...the Soviets can find themselves infiltrated and their own power destroyed. They have already pushed forward to possess other lands whose populations are entirely ag-

ainst them. They now begin a war of infiltration in conditions under which they themselves are particularly exposed to infiltration. In addition, they begin a struggle in which mind will count for more than mass, and political skill and technical ability will bring the decision. Goliath is fighting on David's ground. This struggle will certainly bring freedom to the Eastern lands and peoples of Germany and probably, in the end, to all European lands and peoples.

The Soviets will find it easier to start such a struggle than to stop it. When they are worsted in such a fight within the old boundaries of Europe they may find the struggle spreads to European Russia. They may find their power in all European lands destroyed by the tactics and weapons born of the struggle they have launched. Above all, they have reason to fear that the taste for freedom will spread and that the European peoples of Russia will not only con-

The Opinion Manipulators in 1930s Britain

AFTER two years of an effective cinema ban British Union activities, a British Paramount Newsreel crew visited the Movement's National Headquarters, Westminster on 16 October 1936, to film an interview with Sir Oswald Mosley on the continuing controversy surrounding the events of 4 October, later to be known as 'the Battle of Cable Street'.

Weeks of incitement by the British Communist Party for the Blackshirt's 4th Birthday March through East London to be prevented by organised violence on the streets had persuaded all Britain's five cinema newsreels to be in the area to film what was anticipated to be the humiliating end of Mosley's movement.

The subsequent release of the film the following Thursday showing unruly mobs setting up street barricades and battling the police, and of a lone Blackshirt, outnumbered fifty to one, defending himself with his fists in the traditional British way, and the thousands of disciplined Blackshirts obeying the law as directed by the police and marching westwards away from the mob, was not what those opposed to Mosley had anticipated, and for the majority of the British people it raised more ques-

by Roy Cummings

tions than were answered

With this continued public interest, the Paramount Newsreel, which stood out as a film concern of true independence, decided, to interview Mosley to give the Blackshirt view; Herbert Morrison, M.P. and Leader of the London Labour Party to give the 'independent view'; and the Rev. M. Zeffert, to give the Jewish view, for release on Monday 19 October.

The film did not appear on the scheduled date, but was released on Thursday 22 October by Paramount whose slogan was "The Eyes and Ears of the World", without the Mosley interview, but included the other two protagonists.

According to the "Morning Post" of 24 October, Mosley "was omitted at the last moment...Originally it had been intended that all points of view should be expressed....however it was decided that it might not be politic to show it in its original state. Discussions were held over two or three days. It was then decided that, although the views of Mr. Morrison and the Rev. M. Zeffert might be placed on the screen, those of Sir Oswald Mosley might not.

There is now, it is under-

stood, little possibility that the screen interview with Sir Oswald Mosley will be shown in any shape or form."

So how was it that such a flagrant breach of free speech came about, in a land that prides itself as the Motherland of such freedoms?

The Jewish cinema chain proprietor Isadore Ostrer, whose family controlled hundreds of Odeon and Gaumont cinemas, whose tentacles stretched out and covered most of the British cinema industry and had contracts to screen Paramount News, objected to the inclusion of the Mosley interview. After the film's initial withdrawal, a secret compromise was reached and the Mosley interview alone was suppressed at the ultimate screening.

Uproar in the cinemas

When Herbert Morrison and the Jewish Rabbi were shown expressing their views on the East End disorders, uproar ensued in cinemas throughout Britain. It had been publicly announced that Mosley was a participant, and when the screen showed only the one-sided argument, and cries of "We Want Mosley" and applause



More powerful than a Prime Minister?
ISADORE OSTRER, who was virtually film dictator of Britain in the 1930s

when a flash was seen of him marching through the East End with his Blackshirts.

If the Jewish cinema distributing firms had banned all three interviews because they feared trouble from political opponents in the cinemas, or that these houses of entertainment should not be used for political propaganda, the suppression could have been justly argued. And there was not even the excuse that any attack on the Jews was made in the Mosley interview as the transcript clearly shows:

Q: What is your reaction to the suggestion that the Government should ban the wearing of uniforms by political organisations?

6

And in the 1990s

writes JOHN CHRISTIAN

EQUIVALENT POWERFUL influences, placing their sectional interests before those of the nation, and indeed, controlling the direction of international affairs, are very much alive today, their 'diplomacy' more sophisticated, their channels of disinformation and hidden news censorship more controlled, their pressures on governments more highly organised, and their perimeter defences the false accusation of racism when attention is truthfully and legitimately drawn to their vested interest in national and international problems of today.

And when British politicians cry 'Sovereignty'

in relation to European affairs, suggesting that alone Britain can defend herself against all possible enemies outside her borders, and that within her borders her legislature and executive have full control of decision without fear or favour in the interests of the nation at large and her age old freedoms - let the British people ponder on the fallacy of that pronouncement.

The precursors of our latter-day politicians put paid to the truth of the first concept in an act of folly which defies comprehension. By their disastrous war, declared

in negation of all British interests, they threw to the winds that proud, sovereign Britain and her Empire, created through centuries of sweat and blood of our forebears. That 'happy breed of men', who 'never, never, never shall be slaves' reduced to reliance on their neighbour across the Atlantic to protect them from an expansionist Soviet empire which their political leaders in their stupidity had created.

In the suppression of opinion by an unelected vested interest in that 1936 debate, negating the once firmly held British belief in free speech and

fair play, there could not be a clearer example to persuade honest disbelievers that powerful influences exist, pulling the strings, manipulating opinion, and often 'guiding' Government policies in favour of their special interests, both in national and international affairs.

And they may well ask, as they see the increasing debasement of their years old cultural heritage, pushed, like their stock, into the dustbin of history:

**"WHAT SOVEREIGNTY"-
and "WHO NOW GOVERNS
BRITAIN?"**

NO! SO LONG AGO....a name which could be guaranteed to make the stoutest heart quail. Even today....you've only got to creep up behind a veteran left-winger and whisper "Mosley" in his ear and the poor creature will spring into like some shy wild thing startled from a thicket.

Mosley was the bogeyman of the thirties. His British Union of Fascists was supposed to be planning a *coup d'Etat* for next Wednesday at the latest. Left-wing intellectuals expected to be dragged off to prison camps by Mosley's storm-troopers at an moment. He was known to have an arsenal of tanks and artillery and fighter planes in readiness for *Der Tag*. Stirring times!

There was a gruesome little ditty going the rounds at that period which still sticks in my memory, not to mention my gullet. It listed all the blessings enjoyed by the United States of America, such as blue skies, green grass, democracy and Mother's Day, and all the grisly scourges - as it might be old age, cirrhosis, earls and intolerance - from which the country was free. One verse in particular carolled ecstatically, "We've got no Mosley or Mussolini". If one had wanted to be nasty, one might have pointed out that what the United States did have was Al Capone and Legs Diamond....but apparently the songwriter felt that Sir Oswald Mosley was on the other side of the Atlantic.

In those days, Mosley was widely suspected of having canines that came down over his lower lip. What are known as moulders of public opinion had left us in no doubt that Mosley was a fascist, was he not? Well, then...We were given to understand that there was nothing wrong - very much on the contrary - about *communism*. Communism was all the rage then and Australia wasn't going to be left behind. We were in the swim. We had our Marxist academics who could demonstrate, syllogistically, that the kulaks had been slaughtered in strict accordance with democratic principles, that Bukharin had been a German spy (just like Trotsky), that if God had ever existed the Soviet Union would have been God's own country.

We had our poets crooning tenderly over the NKVD

MOSLEY



The Man

10

Condensed from
**The Pleasure
of Their
Company**

by kind consent of
the author, **France
based Australian
poet and biographer**

**Alister
Kershaw**

who devoted his book
to Sir Oswald Mosley

(every intellectual's favourite secret police), We had our social-realist painters whose beefy proletarians bore such engaging resemblance to those muscle-bound oafs in the advertisements for body building. Communism was good for you. Whereas Mosley ...! *No pasaran!* You approached him at your peril....

When, long afterwards, I came to approach him, I emerged from the ordeal as fit as a fiddle, not a mark on me. But that seems to have been the experience of everybody who met him as distinct from those who were content to read horror stories about him.

His concern for the unemployed

I'd read quite a few of the stories myself back in thirties but somehow they'd failed to make my flesh creep. Unemployment, I'd gathered was one of Mosley's paramount concerns and, even in my fairly cosseted adol-

escence, it seemed to me that you'd better have been pretty damned hungry yourself before you could decently wave that aside as unworthy of consideration. In spite of all the look-out - everybody-he's-going-to-spring scaremongering from press and pulpit, I'd managed to discover one or two other facts as well which hardly justified urging the populace to take cover whenever Mosley was near.

He argued that it was important to devise curbs which would prevent international financial interests from playing "Here we go gathering nuts in May" around any economy that took their fancy. And he was obsessed with the absolute necessity of avoiding a war between England and Germany or between England and any other country. For the life of me I couldn't see anything wrong with that.

Plenty of other people could, in the dear old barmy thirties. When I had the nerve to pipe up in defence of Mosley's views at my school debating society, I was within an inch of being ritually expelled. I didn't then, and don't now, understand why it was so reprehensible to suggest that perhaps unemployment could better be tackled by doing something other than merely convening yet another ragbag of *ronds-de-cuir* to doodle through yet another drowsy meeting. Presumably, it was because anything Mosley recommended was automatically suspect.

He "too clearly too soon"

I didn't understand either, why his assaults on the big money interests were considered so outrageous. I do now. The man in the street takes fifty years to recognise the obvious. The average intellectual takes rather longer. Nowadays, the sunfulness of the multinationals is an article of faith in intellectual circles. Mosley's mistake (it was one he often made) had been to see too clearly too soon.

Finally, his lack of enthusiasm for a European war didn't go over either. According to the crazy-quilt thinking of that time, it was a beautiful example of pure Hegelian logic to profess pacifism while simultaneously bellowing for an anti-German *jihad*. It was a point of view which bore out what I remembered Mosley

saying on one occasion: "The Left in England believes that a war is acceptable, and even desirable, subject to three conditions. It must be fought in the interests of some other country than England, it must only be declared after the same Left has deprived the nation of the military strength needed to fight it, and in no circumstances should any of those who advocated the war be required to take part in it..."

What else did I know about Mosley? Not a lot. Like everyone else of my generation I'd read Huxley's *Point Counter Point* in which he is portrayed as "Everard Webber", leader of the "British Freemen". Huxley kills him off in the novel but, somewhat surprisingly for a bona fide liberal, he depicts him as a rather sympathetic character - intelligent, cultivated, and attractive. In due course I was to find that Mosley was all these things.

He made life 'sheer hell' for the Tories

But when I became better acquainted with the details of his political career, I saw that he was a vastly more appealing personality than Huxley had - perhaps inadvertently - evoked. What a genius he had for raising just those hackles that deserved to be raised! It went straight to my heart. As soon as he entered the House of Commons in 1918 as a Conservative MP, for instance, he set about making life sheer hell for the Conservatives. He was in favour of higher wages, he wanted various public services nationalised, and he said all manner of disagreeable things about the behaviour of the Black-and-Tans in Ireland. The Irish nationalist leader T.P.O'Connor described him as "the man who really began the break-up of the Black-and-Tan savagery". What a spoilsport! There must have been a lot of happy chuckling Conservatives in 1924 when Mosley switched to the Labour Party.

That was a great day for the Labour Party - or, at any rate, it looked as if it were a great day for the Labour Party. Ramsay MacDonald himself wrote to welcome Mosley to the ranks of the righteous. He was still a young man but he had acquired a tremendous parliamentary reputation. Beat-

4 ← rice Webb, that tribal jujitsu of the Fabians, considered him to be "the most brilliant man in the House of Commons" and she wasn't the only one. He was generally regarded as a cinch to become prime minister before he was thirty.

Many halfwits in in House of Commons

But it didn't take him long to wipe the smiles off the faces of his Labour colleagues just as thoroughly as he'd wiped them off Conservative faces. Even while expressing her admiration for his "brilliance", Mrs Webb had confessed that it rather perturbed her. Of course it did! Brilliance in a politician can only be allowed to pass if it isn't too visible. "Keep it quiet" should be the watchword of any politician who happens to have brains. Mosley made no secret of his intelligence and he never bothered to conceal his opinion that there were a large number of halfwits on both sides of the House of Commons. Above all, he was (as he remained) a genuine revolutionary, and in those days the last impression the Labour Party wanted to give was that it was revolutionary. It wanted to reassure the electorate with its meekness and mildness. Quite possibly one of the things that enabled the socialists to win the 1929 general election was that in dim light you couldn't distinguish them from conservatives.

With Labour in power, most observers anticipated that Mosley would become foreign secretary. Not a chance! The party bosses weren't as dumb as all that. As foreign secretary, a man of Mosley's exceptional intelligence might get up to heaven knew what sort of mischief, devising imaginative new approaches, interfering with all kinds of dear familiar policies that hadn't budged for a century - being revolutionary, in a word. He was given a ministerial post outside the cabinet, as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster with special responsibility for unemployment problems.

He wanted 'action, immediate action'

It was an appointment which should have stopped him from doing anything to annoy - or indeed from doing anything whatever. But it didn't - on the contrary.

Before anyone could prevent him, he had drawn up an elaborate and detailed memorandum embodying the most alarming and radical proposals. If adopted, his memorandum might well have eliminated unemployment - but it would have done so in the wrong way. It was revolutionary. After contemplating it with understandable consternation for five months, the cabinet rejected it. By that time unemployment had doubled since Labour had taken office. Mosley left the party. He was sick to death of watching the socialist barons shying away from anything that resembled a serious discussion of unemployment or anything else. Ministerial meetings reminded him of scenes in Bernard Shaw's *The Apple Cart*. What he wanted was something that no respectable politician could envisage without the blood draining from his face: action, immediate action. And accordingly he founded the so-called "New Party" which was too new by half to appeal and which rapidly sank under the weight of lots of intellectuals indefatigably finding reasons for doing nothing; whereupon Mosley took the inevitable next step and launched the British Union of Fascists.

But before doing so, he "made one more effort to remain within the system. In December 1930 he issued his memorandum as a Political Manifesto, signed by Aneurin Bevan, John Strachey, W.J. Brown and himself. In Left-wing parties it is bad enough to be right a few months ahead of your leaders; but this brilliant Keynesian Manifesto was a whole generation ahead of Labour thinking.... The key to (Mosley's) violent break from democracy is to be found in the disgraceful events leading up to the the collapse of the Labour Government in 1931. Mosley was spurned by Whitehall, Fleet Street and every party leader at Westminster, simply and solely because he was right." And who said so? Not, as the Marxist academics and liberal churchmen would doubtless surmise, Dr. Goebbels, but Richard Crossman, in his day as bright and steadfast a star of the British Labour Party as you could hope to meet.

Henry's hero

Henry Williamson had delivered himself of a whole series of vibrant eulogies of Mosley. I liked Henry and

I admired some of his books but I'd already learned that he was given to breathless enthusiasms which were not always discriminating. Racing cars, Richard Jeffries, the scenery of Devonshire and his latest wife, along with Lawrence of Arabia, cricket and the company at the Savage Club all aroused in Henry the same pentecostalist fervour. One got into the habit of waiting for some corroborative evidence before going along with his doxologies. When he began to talk about Mosley I couldn't help wondering how much of what he said was to be believed.

Mosley, Henry panted, was not the ordinary run of politician - a thought which had already occurred to me; he wasn't, in the common meaning of the word, a politician at all. He was a philosopher, a visionary who was also a hard and incisive thinker, an incomparable orator who actually had something to say, he was prodigiously cultivated, his integrity was absolute. Intelligence, culture and integrity were not exactly the qualities I associated with politicians of whatever variety, left, right or centre. This time, I felt, Henry was really laying it on a bit thick.

'You must meet Mosley'

For some reason or other, he got it into his head that I must meet Mosley. That was Henry for you. He was always trying to set up some sort of encounter, usually between people who were bound to prove incompatible. It was Henry who had the notion of bringing Mosley and T.E. Lawrence together and it was while hurtling off on his motorbike to discuss the project with Henry that Lawrence crashed and was killed. It's just possible, I suppose, that a meeting between Mosley and Lawrence might have made some sense; but it was difficult to see why Mosley should be interested in meeting Alister Kershaw. "It's vital that you should meet," Henry kept proclaiming in his best Lyceum manner, "it's vital - it's only through the sun-enriched communication between..." So I obediently noted Mosley's address and did nothing about it.

It was Richard Aldington not Henry, who was eventually responsible for bringing about the sun-drenched communication. He had some correspondence with Diana Mosley whose gifts as a

writer he greatly, and rightly, esteemed, and one day suggested that a book of mine might amuse her. I don't know that she ever read it but, in any case, it was as a result of my sending it that, sometime in 1958, I was invited to lunch at the Mosley's house at Orsay outside Paris.

This was an event. A man who for years past had been denounced with so many admonitory fingers, so many bellicose slamming of fists on bar counters, by newspaper editors, university professors, clergymen high on civic responsibility, professional politicians, and the members of all those leagues and committees which had bored one stiff in the thirties - in my bloody-minded way, I felt that such a man had to have a great deal in his favour...

Mosley's reputation when I met him was still capable of throwing a scare in into the loonier left-wing circles. Circles is right - round and round they go. ...indeed, the *New Statesman* (that *Peg's Paper* of the Left) advised its readers that Mosley "must be the only Englishman today who is beyond the pale" whereas "nobody would flinch if you'd come back from Moscow and said you'd lunched with Kim Philby".

Mosley's patriotism unquestionable

Everyone to his own pale. Mosley had never been charged with, let alone convicted of, any offence whatsoever; it was never suggested that he had betrayed his country or intended to do so; not even those who persecuted him had the nerve to question his patriotism. Philby, on the other hand - the left hand, that is - was a self-confessed and unrepentant traitor, his whole life had been a lie, he had worked gleefully against the interests of his own country and on behalf of a uniquely loathsome tyranny. Whatever the *New Statesman* might say, I can think of at least one person who'd flinch at the idea of lunching with General Philby of the KGB - little old me, that's who.

I could face lunching in the company of Sir Oswald Mosley without a tremor.

[To be continued]

Mr. Kershaw's book [University of Queensland Press, 1986] is out of print. It may be obtainable from U.S. bookseller R.T. Risk, The Stone Cottage, Bennington Road, Francetown, USA.

★ The Editor disclaims all responsibility for Boots Bailey's revelations!

COMRADE

Newsletter of Friends of O.M.

No.32 January 1992

'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'



'This is due to external factors over which we have no control'.....Prime Minister Clement Attlee, 1947

What British Sovereignty? by Desmond IRVINE

They lied and lied in 1939 as they

BARTERED IT AWAY

ONE OF THE GREATER fabrications of truth by our politicians was about the declaration of the last war. Its utter recklessness, uselessness, from the wrong policies, and to fight the wrong enemy.

It was 1940, the Germans seemed to be 'sitting out' the war and some were having second thoughts on the senselessness of it all. The Government was worried so on the radio went Minister of War Hoare Belisha who assured us that we had the best trained army that had ever been seen, the best equipped army ever known, and that it was ready in France and we had nothing to worry about.

But when General Bernard Montgomery heard the broadcast, according to his memoirs, he could not believe his ears because it bore no correspondence whatever with what he saw in his own

3rd Division. He said that Belisha was a liar, and further that the army was so badly equipped that transport had to be called and culled from the shires, counties and backyards of England. There was not even enough ordnance issued to transport his troops and the few pieces of equipment he had.

The condition of his own division was typical he said, and that the 1940 debacle was entirely due to the British Government and not even the enemy.

And while they lied and lied they deliberately silenced opposition. The voice of truth, Mosley and his British Union supporters were put away in prisons and concentration camps accompanied by their lying justification for their act.

Even now the British people do not realise what these men did. Far from providing the country with a defence they did nothing of the sort. In 1939 unemployment was rife and in their muddled way they thought their only hope of solving it was a war with Germany. By this policy the old-gang politicians landed us in the most disastrous war this country had ever seen. The Empire was lost and in fact all that Mosley forecast came about.

Today the heirs to this old gang, the Labour Party, the Conservative Party - though it is hard to see what they are conserving, face all the

difficulties and impossible policies that Mosley always warned about, and faced with the moment of truth of the future of Britain they cry: 'Our Sovereignty'.

When Clement Attlee, Prime Minister of the first post-war Government was asked in

→ 7

INSIDE



Plans to mark the birthplace of flying pioneer SIR ALLIOTT VERDON-ROE with a commemorative plaque were rejected by Labour councillors last year because he was a "personal friend of Sir Oswald Mosley".

Similar proposal to mark a former home of SIR OSWALD MOSLEY rejected for being Sir Oswald Mosley!

THE FATHER OF BRITISH FLYING → 3

The Commemoration Dinner

Women Blackshirts Remembered

'JUST IN CASE I had any difficulty in gaining admission, I have brought one of my most treasured possessions which I thought would be my passport to be with you tonight' said LOUISE IRVINE speaking at the Commemoration Dinner on the Leader's Birthday November 16th. Holding it aloft she said 'This is 50 years old and is headed UNCONVICTED PRISONER: Reg Number 6830 - NAME: Constance Louise Fisher - SENTENCE: 18b'

Louise and husband 'Inky' were attending their first Commemoration Dinner, dedicated this year not only to Oswald Mosley, the greatest Englishman and European of our times but to the women members of British Union and Union Movement. In an atmosphere pregnant with the ever-presence of Mosley, unique to those who followed him, and in the presence of Lady Mosley, old comrades mingled with new younger friends and literary and academic guests from this country and overseas.

In a moving speech, Mrs Irvine told of her incarceration in prison with Lady Mosley and other Blackshirt women during the last war.

She had first seen Lady Mosley "on a bleak November day in the grim surroundings

of Holloway Prison exercise grounds. By this time she had been incarcerated for nearly six months and was looking thin and pale - but even in the ugliness of Holloway still looked in

→ 5

1939 British Union 1945
ROLL OF HONOUR

"What though we ourselves are written,
This, our faith can never die!"

BURTONSHAW, Flt Sgt D.F.

RAF (VR): 156 Sqdn: killed in action Berlin operation 3 January 1944 age 20: Brighton Br. British Union: Remembered on Air Force Memorial, Runnymede.

GRANT, Sgt F.A.J. RAF (VR):

102 Sqdn: killed in action Mannheim operation 6 December 1944, age 22: Ealing Br. British Union: Lies Abbeville Communal Cemetery, France.

Looking back: 1991

Academics in discord?

AS WE REPORTED in our April/May issue, several old Blackshirts participated in a 'Battle of Cable Street' Witness

Seminar organised by the Institute of Contemporary British History at the Institute of Historical Research, London University. Its purpose 'to get behind the myths and its aftermath'.

We have abstained from comment on the event until

we have had sight of the Institute's report. As we go to press we understand that the transcript "has not yet been agreed by all the participants". When this has happened it will be published in the Institute's Journal due to appear in April. The Seminar took place in May last.

We cannot understand what could be the area of disagreement. Unless some who would wish to perpetuate the 54-year old myth of 'Cable Street' are un-

happy about its possible demise arising out of the factual evidence now available from a number of official sources, some of these reported in our April/May 1991 issue.

For the interest of our readers in this review of the year, we publish quotes from two papers reported the event.

And await with interest the result of the academics own Battle of Cable Street!

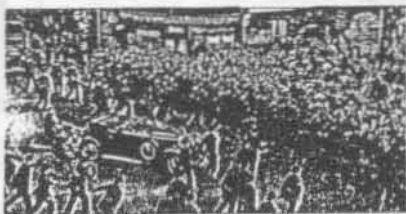
The Times Higher Educational Supplement: 31 May 1991

Huw Richards on seminars that recreate modern events by letting those involved in them answer for their actions

Thanks for Cable Street memories

A certain frisson is inevitable in any company when someone stands up and states boldly: "I am a lifelong supporter of Oswald Mosley. I believe he had the right policies for the whole country."

When former Blackshirt Sid Bailey made that candid announcement at London University's Institute of Historical Research, it was no random academic assemblage that he was addressing.



In the midst of the battle police with drawn batons forcing the march to a stop (captioned by the police)

He was speaking at the invitation of one distinguished Jewish historian, Geoffrey Alderman, professor of politics and contemporary history at Royal Holloway and Bedford New College. Seated next to him was another, David Cesarani, director of the Wiener Library. Around the table were several more ex-Blackshirts and a formidable array of veteran left-wing activists including Phil Piratin, the

only surviving Communist MP.

The juxtaposition was more dramatic than usual, but the diversity of the group gathered to relive the 1936 Battle of Cable Street when Mosley's planned march through the Jewish heartlands of the East End was thwarted by mass protest - characterises witness seminars which bring together extraordinary groups of people to discuss a historical event in which they were involved.....

[It] represented a new departure for the witness format, used to explore an event that created considerable passion and still does. Its success was the vivid evocation of the atmosphere of the East End on October 4, 1936. To the relief of the more nervous

organisers there was no threat of a re-run between still vigorous septuagenarian participants. But while peaceful, the atmosphere was undoubtedly charged.

There was no sense of the meeting of minds seen sometimes in gatherings of old soldiers who fought on opposite sides. Fifty-five years on the ideological gulf was as unbridgeable as ever.

To the ex-Blackshirts the police decision to stop their march when they were unable to clear their way through protesting crowds estimated to be as large as 300,000.... was still a defeat for free speech and a concession to mob rule....

The Jewish Chronicle: 10 May 1991

Veterans recall a war in the streets

By JULIAN KOSSOFF

Forty-five years after they last faced each other in the streets of London's East End, a dozen veterans of the "Battle of Cable Street" met for a final confrontation.

Former Fascists and anti-Fascists gathered at London University's Senate House in an "old boy's disunion" organised under the auspices of the Institute of Historical Research.

The veterans recalled their experiences of that day in 1936 when 200,000 East Enders, many of them Jews, defeated British Fascism.

As they talked, the old enmity was rekindled, with each side blaming the other for the violence that marked one of the largest demonstrations in British political history.....

For the anti-Fascists who attended, most of whom were Jews, that day in October 1936 was remembered as a great victory and an experience that changed their lives.....

"It shaped my life. It gave me the opportunity to fight back against the brutality of Fascists. The experience inspired me to go Spain to fight in the civil war" said Mr Jack Gilbert.

Mr Phil Piratin who led the Communists in the East End and became a Communist MP. found himself, half a century later, seated next to former British Union of Fascists man Mr. Frank Lee....

For Mr Lee and the former Fascists memories of October 4 were far less stirring. They spent a frustrating day waiting in a side street, unable to march because

200,000 anti-Fascists blocked their path. "It was boring" said one.... "Mosley was right for the time" was how one explained his allegiance.....

Mrs Joyce Goodman was 12 years old when she joined the famous "human wall" that stopped the Blackshirts at Gardiners Corner, Aldgate....

Cable Street's legacy was still relevant she believed: "The racism today is saying the same things as it did then."

But a Jewish Chronicle reader would seem to back the Blackshirt view of October 4 1936.

To be remembered not as 'the Battle', but as The Myth of Cable Street.

Mosley's parade after Cable Street

Further to the May 10 article on the meeting of people from both sides in the Cable Street epic of October 1936, I

wonder whether anyone mentioned the fact that it did not stop Mosley or his Blackshirts from parading through East London... as they did one week later quite unhindered. The British Union of Fascists marched through Bethnal Green and were reviewed in Victoria Park quite freely.

As usual, the cowardly attitude of the Board of Deputies' president at the time is mentioned. One wonders whether the equally cowardly attitude of the London Labour Party and the request of its leader, Mr Herbert Morrison, that no party member should demonstrate against the Fascists, was also mentioned?

It was ironic to see Mr Phil Piratin's photograph, for he was one of those British Communists who was struck deaf, dumb and blind only three years later when the real problems arose. As instructed, he and many of his "anti-Fascist" comrades followed their Moscow masters in 1939 at the time of the infamous Nazi-Soviet Non-Aggression Pact and said and did nothing to oppose it.

As for the people who were so impressed by the events of 1936 that they joined the Communist Party, and even fought in Spain, I can give you the names of Jewish members of the party who were so disgusted by its official attitude in 1939 that they left and joined the Armed Forces!

Raymond Kalman,

Jewish Chronicle
24 October 1991

2 ◀ Looking back: 1991

THE PETTY POLITICIANS WHO NOW RUN BRITAIN

Mosley plaque rejected

I can assure you that we most definitely were not in favour of erecting a plaque for Sir Oswald Mosley or any other Fascist leader...

Dame Shirley Porter, the current Westminster Lord Mayor was commenting on the Council's decision last February, when she was Council Leader, to reject a proposal to mark Mosley's former home in the area with a commemorative plaque, part of a scheme to honour its former residents.

Dame Shirley, who is the daughter of the late Sir Jack Cohen, founder of the Tesco chain, will no doubt be herself remembered. Even if only for her sale of Council cemeteries at 5p each.

According to the *Jewish Chronicle*, one Gerry Gable, editor of the anti-Fascist magazine 'Searchlight', was pleased with the Council's decision, one towards which he had no doubt made his representations from the magazine's subsidized and fortified hide-away in the area.

Oddly the Council did not know who had made the Mosley proposal.

Perhaps it was Mr. Gable?

● **CONTRASTING** with the petty action of the Salford councillors, 200 leaders of the British aviation industry including Sir Peter Masefield, former BOAC chairman, the chairman of British Aerospace, Professor Roland Smith, and Richard Fletcher, general manager of BAE's Manchester factories - gathered at the old Brooklands car racing circuit to honour Sir Alliot Verdon-Roe in a ceremony to mark the 80th anniversary of his historic flight.

There are still fortunately in Britain today, men of honour divorced from politics who are determined to pay their respects to the courage and integrity of their fellow-countrymen of Britain's recent past, irrespective of their associations or views on society. But one would have to look long and hard to find them in the ranks of the political parties.

MOSLEY: He needs no plaques —

DURING World War II Sir Oswald was interned. Only now, 60 years later, are revisionist historians beginning to analyse Mosley in an unemotional light.

Motor Sport: October 1991

Plaque snub to city flying pioneer

SALFORD, Lancashire social services committee was furious when asked to give the go-ahead for a plaque on A V Roe House, a Grade II listed building in Patricroft, Eccles, built in the 19th century and now a centre for young offenders according to the *Manchester Evening News*.

The house "is the birthplace of aircraft pioneer Sir Alliot Verdon-Roe... the first Englishman to construct and fly his own plane and also a close friend of the leader of the British Union of Fascists, Sir Oswald Mosley."

Quoting committee member Melvyn Higson it reported we were upset when his name was chosen several years ago for the building. But it was picked up by the National Children's Home.

"I think a plaque would offend everyone in the city who fought in the last war. Roe was a personal friend of Oswald Mosley."

The committee decided not to approve the plaque which was part of a project to fix plaques to listed buildings and former homes of its famous citizens.

Sir Alliot Verdon-Roe THE FATHER OF BRITISH FLYING

By JOHN CHRISTIAN

WHEN in the early 1900s the young marine engineer and pioneer motorist A.V. ROE started to design and construct a machine that would fly there were many who regarded him as a madman.

Until a day in June 1908 when in a full-size aeroplane at the old Brooklands car racing circuit he became the first person to fly in Britain, leaving the ground for distances of 75 to 150 feet, almost a year before the first official Royal Aeronautical Society recognised flight by J.T.C. Brabazon, the future Lord Brabazon of Tara.

Designed and built by himself in paper, bamboo, wire and wood, the machine followed the lines of a model driven by a 24-h.p. Antoinette engine with which he had won the Daily Mail Model Aeroplane Competition the previous year.

A doctor's son, Alliot Verdon Roe was born in Patricroft, near Manchester, and educated at St. Paul's School, King's College, Strand, but at 14 went to study surveying under a civil engineer in British Columbia. On his return a year later he served an apprenticeship at the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Locomotive Works followed by two years at sea as marine engineer. Back ashore

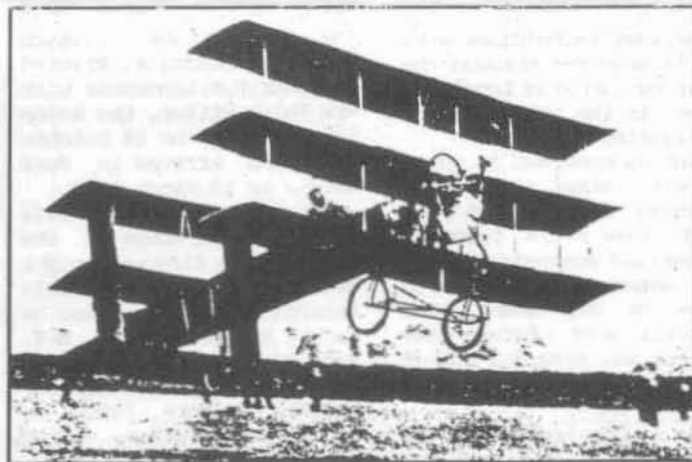


A.V. ROE
First Briton to fly

he entered the motor industry as a draughtsman and designer.

After his historic first flight he was short of capital and could only afford low horsepower JAP engines, achieving only a series of hops until late 1909 when in his Roe 11 triplane he flew 880 yards.

In 1910 he founded with his brother H.V. Roe in Manchester, A.V. Roe & Co Ltd, and began to build aeroplanes in a name that is still world renowned - **AVRO**. (His brother brought another pioneer into the family - he married the controversial birth control advocate Dr. Marie Stopes who founded in London the mothers' clinic for birth control in 1921, and published the much discussed books *Married Love: 1921*, and *Birth Control Today: 1934*. She apparently had little influence on her air pioneering brother-in-



A.V. Roe starts a hop in his Roe 11 triplane in 1909

★ DATES FOR YOUR DIARY ★

MAY BUFFET
Saturday 9 May 1992

COMMEMORATION DINNER and
BRITISH UNION 60th ANNIVERSARY
Saturday 14 November 1992

The AVRO Story

34 FATHER OF BRITISH FLYING

law - he sired four sons and five daughters!)

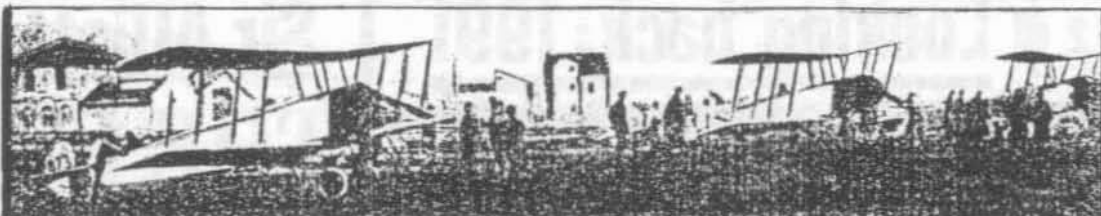
He then led the way in British aviation, developing the tractor biplane. The Avro D and E came in 1911, F in 1912, and the superb 504 in 1913.

It was the combat version of the AVRO 504 that bombed Zeppelins at Friedrichshafen shortly after the outbreak of World War I, and it was an AVRO, flown by Commander Bigsforth, that brought down the first Zeppelin. In 1917 when the Royal Flying Corps finally got down to an adequate system of pilot training, it was the 504 that was selected, as an admirable aircraft with full aerobatic capabilities but without vices, to be the training aircraft. It was fitted with dual controls and 'Gosport tubes' between cockpits so that pupil and instructor could converse in the air, and by 1918 it had trained the majority of the pilots in the RFC, the largest Air Force in the World. After the war it continued to be used by the RAF until 1933.

The last year of the war brought Verdon-Roe the OBE, but peace with severe Government spending cuts on military aircraft put the majority of aircraft building firms out of business, great numbers of workers, including talented designers and technicians with skills acquired through the great expansion of knowledge gained in the production of off fighting aircraft.

AVRO survived and in common with other survivors searched for a market for which they could produce. A cheap and economical light one-seater machine appeared to be the way ahead, with aspirations of a future mass market, and AVRO was one of the first in the field with its **AVRO Baby**.

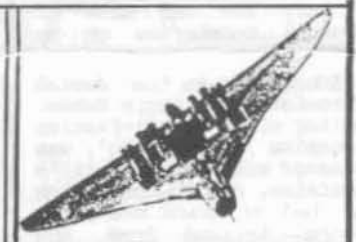
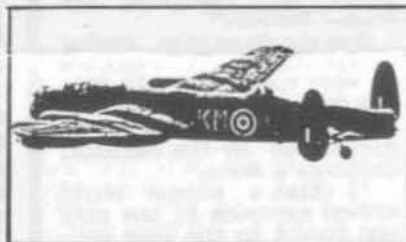
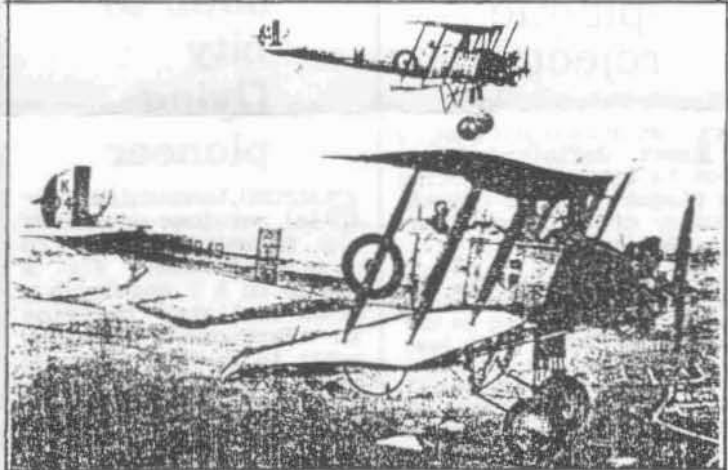
The 'lightplane' concept, which saw it as a sort of competitor of the sports car, was not a success and it was



THE THREE AVRO 504s — believed to be the first bombers to have a mechanical bomb release — prepare to take-off from Belfort on the historic raid on the Zeppelin base at Friedrichshafen in November 1914. AVRO No.873 (left) flown by Sqn Cdr E.F.Biggs was shot down. Nos.875 and 874, Flt Cdr J.T.Babington and Flt Lt S.V.Sippe returned safely to base



PASSENGER Mrs Keith Miller stands by the AVRO AVIAN that made the first light aviation flight to Australia in October 1927. Taking off from Croydon and piloted by Captain W.N.Lancaster, they touched down at Port Darwin in March 1928. RIGHT: Cambridge University Air Squadron Flying AVRO 504Ns in the 1930s. Also known as LYNX AVROS, they were the first new trainer adopted by the RAF after the 1914-18 war and were a development of the war's 504K



THE 'FAITHFUL ANNIES' - the AVRO ANSON. It bore the brunt of Coastal Command's anti-submarine war early in WWII (LEFT) and (CENTRE) the AVRO LANCASTER, the war's most famous bomber, later to be developed into the AVRO LINCOLN after the war, which in turn was developed into the AVRO SHACKLETON by the 1950s. In the 1960s the AVRO Vulcan (RIGHT) was the world's first large delta-winged aircraft

the Government's sponsorship of flying clubs and lightplane competitions in the early 1920s that developed the new concept of a high powered lightplane capable of flight with more than one person, from which came the **AVRO Bluebird** and the **AVRO Avion**, the latter which made the first light aviation flight to Australia. Piloted by Capt.W.N.Lancaster with Mrs Keith Miller, the Avion left Croydon on 14 October 1927 and arrived in Port Darwin on 19 March 1928.

But for 'Mr.Avro', 1928 brought a partings of the ways for his firm was bought over his head by Siddle's interests. Nonplussed he bought an interest in S.E. Saunders Ltd of Cowes, a builder of flying boats for the Air Ministry, later to become Saunders-Roe, known for its Saro Flying Boats, marine craft, and for whom he was President at his

death thirty years later. The following year he received his Knighthood.

In the 1930s he became a pioneer in another field - economic reform and wrote articles on the need for the State to regain its prerogative over currency creation, and became a Vice-President of the Economic Reform Institute.

Mosley Man

His pioneering spirit also led him to the young British Union and in June 1934 he organised and spoke at a meeting to introduce Blackshirt speakers at his home at Hamble, Hampshire. He was not then a member but he joined immediately after and became an advisor on monetary matters to the Blackshirt Policy Directorate.

In World War II he was to suffer the loss of his eldest and third sons in the

RAF, killed on operations in 1941 and 1943, and although no longer connected, aircraft bearing his name were prominent in operations, the 4-year old **AVRO Anson** - to become known as 'Faithful Annie' - bore the brunt of the air anti-submarine operations in the early part of the war, and the **AVRO Lancaster** became Britain's most successful heavy bomber.

After the war Sir Alliott Verdon-Roe maintained his life-long pioneering spirit and became chairman of aviation development, and precision engineering companies, and remained a staunch supporter of Oswald Mosley and his Union Movement, in spirit, financially, and as a contributor to Union.

Sir Alliott Verdon-Roe was a great fighter to

1 Commemoration Dinner

the words of Tennyson: 'A daughter of the Gods, divinely tall and most divinely fair'."

She continued: "I was not in prison in those early days of May and June 1940 when so many of our British Union members, men and women, were first arrested and Lady Mosley so cruelly taken from her children - the youngest an eleven weeks old baby. We can never know the pain and anguish she suffered in those first weeks.

I was not detained until October 1940 and first put in C Wing where there were not many 18b detainees, but after a few weeks was moved to F Wing which by then was used solely for 18b prisoners. It was then that I found the strength and comradeship of other British Union members, and met Lady Mosley daily.

In my younger days it had been my ambition to go to Royal Holloway Women's College but had to be content with a humbler Train-College. As it turned out I did get to Holloway - but the Prison, not the College!

And what an education that was!

I rubbed shoulders with all kinds of people whom I would never have met but for 18b. I was one of the luckier ones. I was still young and in good health and did not suffer the heart-ache of leaving children and family outside. But I lost my job and my livelihood.

There were so many talented British Union women there and each had her own characteristics to offer. It was in some ways a rich experience. I learned so much from them and Lady Mosley enlarged my whole vista of literature, art and music, and she was always so kind in lending me books when they were hard to obtain.

Holloway had its lighter moments. I well remember Fay Taylour whose cell was on the ground floor of F Wing. When locking up time arrived, which was very early evening, she was usually gossiping with a friend on the top floor and she would make a mad dash along the corridor, down the spiral staircase, and a further race along the bottom cor-

His Blackshirt Women

'Without women I could not have got a quarter of the way' Mosley 1940

Persecuted Women



The young schoolteacher LOUISE FISHER when Birmingham's Blackshirt Womens Organiser, and [1] in 1941 being shipped to the Isle of Man with enemy aliens and other Blackshirt women for internment in Port Erin Concentration Camp after her detention in Holloway Goal. Also in the picture, OLIVE HAWKS, Parliamentary Candidate for Peckham and 1940 National Womens Organiser [2] and KATHLEEN MARSDEN, who as secretary to National Meetings Organiser Hector McKechnie helped him organise the world's largest meeting at Earls Court in July 1939

LOUISE was to marry Birmingham's District Leader, and later District Inspector 'INKIE' IRVINE who was also detained 18b. After his release he served over four years in the army and subsequently became Union Movement Organiser for S/E Essex. In the 1950s, he produced a local quarterly newspaper, the EAST ANGLIAN PRESS for which Louise, as CELIA GOODWAY contributed the Womens Page

ridor, to arrive at her cell door as the wardress finished calling her name, just in time for lock-up. We tried to time her once, and told her it was the nearest she could get to her beloved motor-racing. Alas, Fay is no longer with us.

I remember another story concerning Lady Mosley.

In F Wing we were eventually allowed the use of the kitchen and could do

some of our own cooking. Lady Mosley obtained permission to prepare a hot meal and send it by visitor to O.M. in Brixton Prison. With great ingenuity she made a rough hay-box in which was the casserole made with her loving care. When she received his letter saying how much he had enjoyed it she was so overjoyed that she rushed from her cell and said to Miss Baxter, one of the older wardresses: 'Isn't it wonderful - my husband enjoyed the meal so much'. Then recollecting she said: 'But of course you know, you censored the letter' to which Miss Baxter replied: 'No, my dear, I didn't know. I censor and initial his letters, but I never know what he has written because I can never read his writing'!

Lady Mosley always behaved with great courage in prison and demanded no special favours, her natural charm and dignity winning over wardresses who at first had been antagonistic.

Many names come to mind of fellow-prisoners. Women like ex-suffragette Mrs. Elam, Mrs. Winfield, Kathleen Marsden,



FAY TAYLOUR: Britain's top woman racing driver in 1939. In 1940 she was 'racing the Holloway Goal Circuit'

Florence Hayes, Ann Good, and that stalwart from Lancashire Agnes Booth, and many more. Sadly they are no longer with us and we are becoming an endangered species. I don't see any 'Greens' rushing forward to protect or preserve us.

But we certainly can be certainly sure of preservation because as history is written in true perspective it will be seen more and more how right was the purpose and purpose of Oswald Mosley, many of his far-sighted ideas now being taken up.

Over the years there has been no easy way for Lady Mosley. She bears our Leader's name and has never once flinched or faltered. Her loyalty and staunchness are magnificent and she has never missed an opportunity in speaking or writing to answer all those scurrilous attempts to blacken O.M.'s name, but always with this steadfastness is her wonderful wit and sense of humour so evident in Holloway Prison.

For all those present I assure her that she has the admiration and love of us all."

Michael Quill

IN his welcome speech MICHAEL QUILL paid tribute to the women of British Union and Union Movement whose work, loyalty and sacrifice had been outstanding.

They had not yet been featured in 'Comrade' to any extent because its first task was to nail the historical lie, built up by a fifty year barrage of falsehoods in Press, Radio, TV and the old gang political parties, that British Union by 1939 was a spent force, and that Mosley and his Black-shirts were traitors.

The pages of 'Comrade' bear witness to the irrefutable truth as its research in issue after issue gives news of yet another British Union lost old comrades brought home to peacefully rest with our Blackshirt Dead in our Roll of Honour. Still just the tip of the iceberg yet it is already proven that Mosley's Black-shirts were killed in action on land, sea and air of every battle area of the Second World War, and given their opposition to the politicians justification for the war, this record of patriotism is second to none.

Later he spoke of the coming General Election and our

If anything, it was the prospect of meeting Lady Mosley which most agitated me. The newspaper bits and pieces about her which I'd unavoidably come across from time to time hadn't done a thing to buoy up my social aplomb.

To begin with, the journalists couldn't mention her name without identifying her as one of the "famous Mitford sisters". They explained that she had been the most sparkling of the Bright Young Things of the Twenties and I, God knows, was no sparkler. You didn't have to read between the lines to appreciate that you'd better be a viscount or at least a Cecil Beaton if you were to have a chance of winning her approval. Moreover, the columnists cooed, opening wide their big blue eyes, she was not only the wife of a baronet but the daughter of a lord and the sister of a duchess - a heady mixture for someone like me who was never at his best, so to speak, with his betters. Finally, the journalists tirelessly "revealed" that Hitler had declared her to be the perfect type of Aryan beauty. This last titbit, I imagine, was designed to put us on our guard, the implication being that anyone considered beautiful by Hitler was obviously a bad lot...

Mosley's historic house

Mosley's house had been built for one of Napoleon's generals and grandiloquently baptised - whether by the general himself or one of his entourage I don't recall - *le Temple de la Gloire*, the Temple of Glory. It was classified as a historical monument so that nothing about it could be changed, not even the name. Mosley derived a certain sardonic amusement from his address. "Half the population of England," he observed wryly, "have been taught to consider me a megalomaniac. When they hear that I live in a house called 'The Temple of Glory' they'll be convinced that I've gone right over the edge."

In fact, the house wasn't as intimidating as the name suggested. Readers of the *New Statesman* and similar publications no doubt had a mental image of Mosley brooding darkly in some sort of presposterous *Adlerhorst*. The poor things would have been disconcerted by

MOSLEY



The Man

We left the author in our last issue anticipating without qualm, his first meeting with OSWALD MOSLEY at the Temple de la Gloire. He was less assured at the prospect of meeting one of the 'famous Mitford sisters'

the "Temple", an elegant Palladian villa altogether unsuitable for brooding. The rooms were high, beautifully proportioned, and perfectly furnished. Lawns ran down to an ornamental lake on which a number of decorative but somewhat peevish swans were to be seen romantically gliding. It was the sort of house which looked as though it ought to be inhabited by civilised, cultivated people of discriminating taste. Which it was.

Meeting Diana

Meeting Diana Mosley made me realize that if Hitler and I had nothing else in common we were in total agreement as regards feminine beauty. She had too, magical ability to make one feel, if not at home (the *Temple de la Gloire* could never have been home to plain colonial me) at any rate not too painfully out of one's allotted sphere. At one moment there I was, miserably conscious of not being Cecil Beaton, and the next I had been somehow bewitched into thinking that nothing could be nicer than to be Alister Kershaw. I remember the feat with gratitude.

The real Mosley

Mosley had the same engaging talent. As soon as he came into the room I was attracted, too, by his spontaneous friendliness, an evident readiness to like one. I was attracted too by his manifest zest for life which showed itself in his athletic movements and his vig-

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Condensed from The Pleasure of Their Company

by kind consent of
the author, France
based Australian
poet and biographer

**Alister
Kershaw**

who devoted a chapter
of his book to
Sir Oswald Mosley

orous speech. He was a strikingly good-looking man, which never does any harm. His voice was agreeably classless. It was not, needless to say, a proletarian rasp but it wasn't an aristocratic burble, either.

If I'd ever been fool enough to believe the journalists, Mosley would have been a sickening disappointment. I'd been subjected to far more riveting stares from liberals in good standing than were ever directed at me by Mosley. I never spied him aggressively jutting his chin. Never while I was present did he pound his fist in demagogic frenzy. One drank delicious burgundy at his table; I never knew him drink blood. He was a very off "fascist" altogether....

On the day war was declared, he had published a message to his followers calling on them "to do noth-

ing to injure our country, or to help any other power". That was when the British communists were being vociferous about the wickedness of the "imperialist war". So who was arrested? Mosley, of course; and for what is known as good measure, Lady Mosley with him. Their three-month-old baby was given the benefit of the doubt.

They had a rough time of it in prison, but not nearly rough enough to satisfy the left-wing press. They were allegedly enjoying all manner of extrapenitentiary delights. Diana was known to have a lady's maid in attendance on her in her cell, and Mosley himself was roundly accused of wolfing caviar (for some reason, caviar, although Russian, always makes the Left go fan-tastic) and cynically savouring rare vintages. But whatever resentment they felt afterwards was well under control. When (which didn't often happen) they mentioned the ignoble business it was with contemptuous flippancy. "Speaking as an old lag..." Mosley would say, or "Of course, we goalbirds..." What with one thing and another, I very soon came to the conclusion that if Oswald Mosley was the monster we'd been reliably assured he was, then I had a regrettable weakness for monsters.

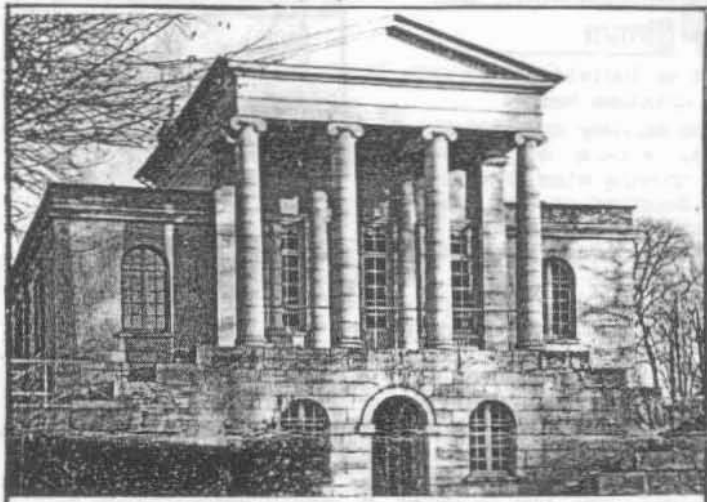
Visiting the *Temple de la Gloire* was a considerable and continuing pleasure. I never did turn into Cecil Beaton or Evelyn Waugh but that didn't worry anyone as far as I could see. True to form, I managed to put my foot in my mouth more often than I would have wished, mostly by excoriating well-known public figures who always proved to be friends or relations of either Mosley or his wife; but these solecisms of mine were benignly overlooked and, since I was invited back at frequent intervals, I take it I was a reasonably welcome guest. It was not very long before we were on first-name terms or, as far as Mosley was concerned, on quasi-first-name terms in as far as he was always "Tom" or "Kit" to his friends, never "Oswald".

No ordinary politician

Such politicians as I'd come across from time to time hadn't exactly dazed me with their vivacity and many-sidedness. Once they'd abused their colleagues and



Diana Mosley - 'the perfect type of Aryan beauty'



The Temple de la Gloire..built for a Napoleon general

lamented the apathy with which their latest speech on the municipal waterworks had unaccountably been met, the conversation, or rather the toneless monologue, tended to become a touch anaesthetic. Things were very different with Mosley. The physical vitality which was so evident in him was reflected in his quick and vivid speech. Henry had been quite right: he was no

ordinary politician. His habit of actually listening to what other people had to say was alone enough to prove that. He enjoyed the rapid and uninhibited exchange of opinions. I never knew him try and hold the floor. He hadn't the slightest objection - rather the contrary - to being interrupted or contradicted. Some fascist! I kept on reflect-

ing. He had been involved in politics ever since his election to the House of Commons at the age of twenty-two but he could, and did, talk about plenty of other matters. I wish I could reproduce an astonishing discourse I once heard him deliver on the works of Goethe: it almost induced me to read Goethe myself - quite an achievement. When he did discuss politics, I listened to him with none of the lancinating boredom which the subject normally produced in me. He was disinclined to talk about the past, not because he in any way regretted the stand he had taken at different times in the past but because his vigorous intelligence naturally directed his thoughts to the future. A clair-voyant! I didn't realize it fully at the time but I did later. I remember him predicting (to give one example) that what he called "the next multinational" would take the form of a consortium of oil-producing states and, further, that one of the consequences would be the same catastrophic unemployment which he had vainly tried to eradicate when he was active - all too active - in the Labour Party. Just possibly the "leaders" of the Western world were also aware that such a situation was likely to arise but, if they were, they certainly kept the information to themselves.

Multiracial nonsense

Nor did they ever let on if they appreciated that massive immigration might cause a problem or two. The Panglosses of both the Left and the Right were still hallelujahing then over the imminent prospect of "multiracial societies". *La bonne blague!* Kit saw from the beginning that there wasn't much likelihood of Pakistanis and Yorkshiremen fraternally toasting each other in a mixture of nut-brown ale and palm-toddy simply because they ought too. And was it really on the cards that they'd become chummier than ever once the unemployment that Kit rightly foresaw had become a reality? The question, of course, had not so much as crossed the minds of the democratic medicine men. "Every Englishman out of work," Kit observed, "will resent every migrant who isn't. No doubt it's intellectually unreasonable, no doubt it's morally wrong, but that's going to be the attitude. And the idiots who are

running things imagine that they can legislate prejudices out of existence, abolish hostility by decree, pass laws which will oblige people to love their neighbours. Christ wasn't able to get the message across; it's improbable that the Race Relations Board will be any more successful..."

Editor Diana

Kit had as lively sense of humour as anyone needs (it's an overrated virtue anyway) but he was not, in my experience, an especially witty man. That didn't matter. Diana could provide enough wit for two. *The Wit and Wisdom of Diana Mosley*: that's an anthology I'd enjoy compiling. Her story of the article on Ezra Pound would certainly have its place. She was editing a magazine called *The European* and somebody submitted an exegesis of Pound's *Cantos*. Knowing his reverential attitude towards his own work, Diana thought it would be prudent to seek the great man's approval of the article. Weeks went by with no answer. Finally, since the decision had to be taken, she went ahead and published the thing and no sooner had it appeared that Pound's belated comments arrived. "So-and-so's article is nuts," he wrote in his folksy way; "can it". A few days later, having seen the new issue of *The European* he wrote again severely. "What's the idea," he asked, "publishing that article? I told you it was nuts and you should can it." "Dear Ezra, Diana replied, "it's all due to the terrible confusion between English English and American English. When you said the article was nuts, I thought you meant that the author had got to the kernel of the problem; and when you said 'can it', I thought you meant *preserve* it..."

This is the sort of drollery I would have listened to gratefully, all day, just as, in a completely different register, Kit's somewhat less sportive conversation had me invariably enthralled.

I delighted in my visits to *Temple de la Gloire* as wholeheartedly as a respectable left-winger would have delighted in spending a cheery evening with General Philby in the games room of the Lubianka prison.

● Mr. Kershaw's book [University of Queensland Press, 1986] is out of print. It may be obtainable from US bookseller R.T. Risk, The Stone Cottage, Bennington Road, Francetown, USA.

1 WHAT SOVEREIGNTY?

Parliament why the economy was in such a state he said: "This is due to external factors over which we have no control"

If a Prime Minister of this country admits that, then what is he a government of, and where is the Sovereignty?

The answer is that the idiocy of British policy, with the political parties in unison, bartered it away in 1939, pitching a half-badly equipped country into that unnecessary war which was to be the death knell of Great Britain.

So what do they mean those who cry Sovereignty in rejection of a closer Union of Europe to which all other states are moving? Those who think we are island off the coast of Florida instead of mainland Europe, even if because of our lost strength resulting from that war had subverted it into an aircraft carrier for American might to hold at bay the very Communist power which our politicians had brought into being.

Now that this threat has collapsed, along comes incidentally the latest lie of the British political establishment, that they created the liberation of Europe. They suggest that the Russians, the Poles and other Eastern Europeans looked into the shop windows of Selfridges and Harrods and were so taken with what they saw that they were so impressed with the

idea of borrowing money and taking out mortgages they could never repay that they wanted to join it.

The truth is that the European spirit, that same spirit that in 1953 inspired the people of Berlin to tear down the Bolshevik flag and march streets for liberty until crushed by Russian tanks, burst forth after forty-odd years in chains, with little help from our old gang politicians.

It was Mosley, whose ideas greatly influenced European thought, that for over forty years fueled the enchainment and slumbering European spirit and it is that spirit that is an anathema to the strange crowd now in Parliament. They prefer always safe divisions, safe seats, do nothing, muddle along so they raise the fraudulent cloud-cuckoo-land cry of Sovereignty, but it is the sovereignty of their own chattering club at Westminster which they defend. The Parish Pump mentality at a time when the parish pump itself is dry.

The time is nigh for a new Movement of the people, born out of the pioneering Union Movement, in rhythm with Mosley's vision splendid.

"From the dust we rise to see a vision that came not before. All things are now possible; and all will be achieved by the final order of the European."

● *Abridged from Desmond Irvine's speech at the Commemoration Dinner.*

IN MEMORIAM

"Hark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages"

ADAMSON, John: former 2nd Bn Durham L/Inf: South Shields British Union: from heart disease accelerated by gas and wounds in action Great War: at 47 he 'died as honourably as if killed in action' said coroner.

December 1934

AITKEN, Andrew: P/Off RAF: early BU member: in flying accident, Sussex. BU RAF Sdn/Ldr brother **LIONEL**, later killed in action off Calais 1941.

December 1937

ALLEN, Condit, Mary OBE: ex-suffragette and co-founder first women's police force Great War: Head Women's Auxiliary Service 1914-40: British Union: under 188 house detention World War 2: Union Movement.

December 1964

BARDELEY, John Fraser: Hendon Br. British Union.

20 December 1936

BAILEY, Jack: Bethnal Green British Union and Union Movement: father of FOMs Fred and Sid: at 82.

19 January 1965

BECKETT, Mrs Joe: wife of former English Heavy Wt. Boxing Champ: like Joe, Br. Union, 188 Political Prisoner - in Holloway Gaol, and Union Movement.

12 December 1952

BIRD, Mr A.J.: former Inspector of Schools, Middlesex, and Principle Kilburn Polytechnic: Kilburn British Union.

January 1939

BOWLER, Mr A.E.: Ealing British Union & Union Movement.

December 1976

BRAY, Bill: D/Tr Birmingham Central, and Handsworth Br. British Union: 188 Political Prisoner

3 December 1988

BROWN, Prof. A.E. MA LLB: Prof. International Law, Calcutta, Cambridge British Union.

6 January 1939

CHARLEY, John: British Union D/Ldr Hull & Parl. Cand. Hull East, Cty. Prop. agenda Off. Yorks: 188 Political Prisoner: Union Movement. Author *Black-shirts and Roses* publ. 1990 after his death.

28 December 1988

CORR, Mrs. BU and UM: mother of UM Walthamstow Br. Leader Ernest Coker.

January 1950

CORBIN, Peter: British Union speaker, Salisbury

January 1981

D'ALESSIO, Ron: First British D/Ldr Plymouth, later Cheltenham: 188 Political Prisoner.

18 January 1987

DOWDY, Mrs. L.A.: wife of John, Brit. Union Parl. Cand. Evesham.

January 1976

DUFFIELD, K.T. 'Ken': Epping British Union: 188 Political Prisoner.

December 1986

ELAM, Dudley: Brit. Union's elderly receptionist at Westminster NHQ: 188 Political Prisoner contributing to his death: husband of ex-suffragette Nora Elam, BU Parl. Cand. Northampton, also 188 Political Prisoner in Holloway Gaol.

December 1948

EVENS, Mrs Dorothy: widow of Biddy, BU & UM, Upminster and St. London.

15 January 1991

FITT, Bill: British Union Epping Branch speaker.

30 January 1988

FRANCIS-HAWKINS, Nell: British Union pioneer member, later Dir. General: 188 Political Prisoner in Brixton Gaol leading to early death at 43.

25 December 1950

GOOD, Anne: British Union and Union Movement speaker: 188 Political Prisoner. Leader's secretary Union Movement.

Early 1979

GRANT of Shoreditch: Father of family BU supporters.

December 1948

HARRIS, Mrs. Florence: Bethnal Green, Brit. Union and Union Movement: wartime collector for 188 Detainees Fund.

December 1950

HILL, W.M.: early member and part founder Taunton Branch British Union: father of two Blackshirt sons.

January 1938

HOLMAN, Percy: Southampton BU & UM: in road accident.

31 December 1977

JEBB, Ralph Gladwyn: explorer, pearl fisherman: British Union D/Ldr Salisbury, Prop. Off. Wilts, Dist. & Reg. Inspector Wessex, Parl. Cand. Dorset West, BU Gold Distinction, 188 Political Prisoner: At 87 in Marbella, Spain.

28 January 1978

KITCHEN, Mrs Sabina: Mother of Union Movement and FOMs Ken of Leamington Spa.

8 December 1975

LINKLETT, Sidney: East Ham British Union: severely wounded East Surrey's, Italy, 1943: brother of BU E/Ham D/Tr., UM & FOMs John.

December 1986

MARSON, Arthur: Hull British Union: 188 Political Prisoner: At 71 in Cologne where he had lived for 30 years.

23 December 1990

PRENTICE, Charles: E/London British Union and Union Movement: husband of Rose, 1961 Union Movement Nat. Womens Org: in Australia.

January 1981

PRICE, Catherine Margaret and Charlie: holder of OM's Service Distinction, parents of British Union's and Union Movement's Hackney Branch Organiser and wife Flo, both 188 Political Prisoners: Charlie one of East London's earliest BU members.

January 1952 and January 1955

RAE, H.O.: Walthamstow Union Movement.

24 January 1951

ROBERTS, John: Huntingdon: late Ipswich British Union & UM.

December 1954

SCOTT, Mr R.G.: Father of D/L Scott, Bournemouth Br. Union.

13 January 1940

STEWART, Fred: A/D/L Sales Harrow British Union.

31 December 1936

SUTHERLAND, Mrs M.A. 'Ma': Loyal Mosley supporter, friend and confidant of many British Union East London supporters in her Stepney cafe, and in Union Movement before her retirement to Norfolk.

January 1975

VERDAN-ROE, Sir Allott: Early flying pioneer: founder of AVRO: lost 2 sons in flying ops WW2: NHQ Branch British Union. At 80.

31 December 1984

WALSH, Mrs Glad: Member Idmehouse British Union: Temp D/L 1940: occasional contributor to *Comrade* in verse.

31 December 1990

WARBURTON, Edmund 'Ned': New Party, British Union, Manchester and NHQ: lost eye in 'battle of Stockton-on-Tees' 1933: Pioneer Corps WW2: brother of John.

31 December 1984

WILLIAMSON, Hugh Ross: Playright, biographer and author incl. *Who is for Liberty*, 1939: 1930s contributor to *Action* when prominent Labour Party member: a good friend of Mosley Movement.

January 1978

WOODWARD, L.A.: Dorset West British Union.

28 January 1938

WYNN, John: TV activist and Action British Union.

11 December 1937

WYNN, Mrs: Wallasey British Union and Union Movement.

December 1954

YEATS-BROWN, Francis, DFC: 5th Lancers, Indian Army & Royal Flying Corps: author *Bengal Lancer*: NHQ Branch British Union.

10 December 1944

5 Commemoration Dinner

need as individuals to make our opinions heard.

The economy and immigration, a term coupled with the growing size of what is now described as 'the ethnic minorities', are two of the important issues and they are linked although the political parties will again in unison and in cowardess try to avoid this latter problem which could be the death knell of the Britain as we and our fathers and forefathers knew it.

"They accuse of being 'racist' any who is white British born, concerned in the continuation of the British way of life, like countless generations before him, who raises the issue" he said. "At the same time they have the hypocrisy to bleat about helping the Third World, yet steal from those countries their greatest hope - their own people who have brains, initiative and determination.

What a disgrace it was to have an Indian doctor working in Britain when there were so few doctors in India and so much suffering.

How can those poorer countries progress when those who can run small and large businesses are permitted to enter and trade in Britain, leaving behind the poor and starving?"

What was needed was a massive programme to attract immigrants, and their British born offspring who have acquired Western skills, to return and build up their own countries.

To create the conditions to persuade them to return would require a great industrial effort to build and equip places for them to live, a demand that could move Britain out of recession, provide work for our unemployment, and give us the breathing space to build a new social order here in Britain.

Lady Mosley

In a short speech Lady Mosley expressed her appreciation to those who had come

again from the wealth of endeavour and genius of its forefathers that history suggests were born to lead, its new generations joined in British union, leading the European peoples in Mosley's concept of the ever striving to higher forms of human existence.

Old Comrades



Obituary

Clare Pelling

WITH DEEP REGRET we report the death - a few weeks apart of two old comrades of British Union's Epping Branch. Clare, herself an active member, was the wife REG PELLING, District Leader from 1938 until his detention as an 188 Political Prisoner in 1940.

Clare died on 14 December in Lancashire were both had lived for some years.

Eric Ball

IN DEVON on 8 January, ERIC BALL who was District Leader Epping until 1938 when he handed over to Reg Pelling.

Eric, who was 75, worked for an overseas bank in the City for 43 years, apart from the war. When a boy he had worked for local MP Winston Churchill. In July 1940 he and member Wally Wragg were arrested and released after an appeal. He then joined the Royal Navy, serving until 1946.

Mary Burwood

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY to our old comrade Dicky Burwood on the death in December of his wife MARY in their 62nd year of marriage.

Courage has never been in short supply for our 'Bethnal Green Battler', now 85.

His old comrades in Friends of O.M. know that it will not fail him now.

a long way to be present. She told of OM would have been thrilled to have seen what has happened in Europe. Except for Britain. The British Government with its out-of-date thinking must be pressed to unite with the other 11 states to advance to that United Europe that has become a historical necessity.

"If we wish to honour OM for what he was, what he did and what he stood for - what he had lived and worked for 35 years, all of us must remain absolutely true to his broad grand ideal of a United Europe"

Published by John Christian for Friends of O.M.
12, Mulberry Close, London, E4 8BS

4 FATHER OF BRITISH FLYING

the end - in January 1958 in his eighty-first year. One of the kindest of men and a great patriot. A breed of Englishman rich in the annals of Britain's former greatness, today sadly lacking.

May the example of such men be a catalyst for the youth of today and tomorrow to halt the quickening slide to decadence, and like Sir Allott, reach for the skies in a striving to restore the greatness of Britain's past. A Britain strong

COMRADE

Newsletter of Friends of O.M.

No. 33. FEBRUARY-APRIL 1992

'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'



'...displayed high qualities of leadership and outstanding keenness'

D.F.C. Citation: London Gazette 3 March 1943

'...his skill and enthusiasm have been an example to others'

D.S.O. Citation: London Gazette 2 July 1943

'He was a gay, cheerful character. He was also a leader of men'

*Group Capt. 'Johnnie' Johnson
DSO DFC in 'Wing Leader'*



RAF HERO A MOSLEY BLACKSHIRT

By JOHN
CHRISTIAN

AFTER NEARLY 50 YEARS, it can now be told, resulting from COMRADE research, that another of Mosley's Blackshirts, 28-year old **GEOFFREY WARNES**, who became a successful fighter pilot and RAF personality, paid the supreme sacrifice in the war which Mosley's men had fought to prevent, his death with another pilot having been described as 'a story of great bravery and deliberate cold-blooded sacrifice.' ●

Squadron Leader 'Cats Eyes' Warnes, as he was known - he was the first RAF fighter pilot to wear contact lenses - had been an active Leeds Blackshirt and the BUF's West Riding Transport Officer. He became a non-active member when his employment precluded such activity.

But inactivity was alien to the six-foot-two Geoff Warnes. He became 'lock-forward' at Rugby for Headingley; joined the Yorkshire Air Association and flew with the Civic Air Guard. In 1938 he became a representative for Gilchrist's Leeds process engravers and is still well remembered.

At the outbreak of war he was rejected by the RAF for flying duties because of poor eyesight but

accepted as an instructor and went to France with the Advanced Air Striking Force.

On his first leave he went to London and at his

own expense - £50, a good sum at the time - was fitted with contact lenses. The RAF then accepted him for flying duties, and after further training was commissioned and joined 263 Squadron as a pilot officer. Shortly after he was publicised in press and newsreels as the first fighter pilot to wear contact lenses.

A meteoric rise in the RAF followed, becoming squadron commander in just over a year winning both DSO and DFC.

After a 6-month rest from flying duties, Squadron Leader Warnes returned to resume command of his squadron - which had been adopted by the Argentine Bellows Club - and supervised its re-equipment with the Typhoon fighter-bomber with which they were to specialise in shooting up ammunition and troop trains in occupied territory.

Warnes was soon in action and in successive days was reported shooting down a Dornier, flying at several hundred miles an hour between trees in a French wood, and an ME109

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PAWNSHOP POLITICS

AFTER a British General Election, we ought to have something to say on it. We have. We shall give it the space its degeneration into soap opera deserves.

'Your General Elections are quite impossible...They are auctions of promises to spend money in the future which neither party owns in the present. The result is simple inflation....'

We are little in accord with the views of Chinese dictator Deng Xiaoping but feel he has a point with this 1985 remark to Sir Geoffrey Howe, as are the Tory cheering dies, the Bank of England presses will be churning out Government Stock certificates, as one commentator put it, 'wallpapering the markets...the years of deficit stretch into the distance...'

Good news for the City of London - but not the mass of the British people who in one way or another will pay.

British Union
ROLL OF HONOUR
1939 1945

WARNES, Sqn/Ldr Geoff:
DSO DFC: RNVR: 263
Sqn: Leeds Branch
British Union and
former British Union
West Riding Transport
Officer: age 28: first
RAF pilot with contact
lenses: missing on operations off Guernsey on 22 February 1944: Remembered on Runnymede Air Force Memorial.

BROOKER, Cpl. A.A.J.: 2nd Btn
Black Watch: Dorset British
Union: age 23:
killed in action Burma
5 April 1944: Remembered
on Rangoon Memorial.

BROOKER, Cmr. C.G.: 90 Field
Regt RA after 188 British
Political Prisoner 1940-
42: Exeter Br. British
Union: died on P.O.W.
long march 8 March 1945:
Remembered on Cassino
Memorial, Italy.

EAST, Lt. Philip: 5th Btn
Queen's Own Cameron
Highlanders: Leytonstone
British Union: age 26:
killed in action Tunisia
24 April 1943. Lies in
Medjez-el-Bab War Cemetery, Tunisia.

FOGG, Pte. James: 1st Btn
E/Lancs Regt: Manchester
British Union: killed in
action, Cleve, Germany
11 February 1945: Buried
Reichswald Forest War
Cemetery: Age 26.

JONES, Capt. F.L.F.: 6th Btn
14th Punjab Regt: Hoxwood
Br. British Union: age 22:
killed in action Singapore
11 February 1942:
Remembered Kranji War
Cemetery, Singapore.

MALLINDER, Cpl. Albert D.:
2nd Btn Queen's Royal Regt
(West Surrey): age 28:
N/E Bethnal Green Branch
British Union: killed in
action Anzio beachhead 22
February 1944: Remembered
Cassino Memorial, Italy.

KITFORD, Maj. The Hon. Tom:
KRRC: HQ
Branch British
Union: brother of
Lady Mosley:
killed in action
Burma
4 April 1945.
Lies in Taukkyan War
Cemetery, Rangoon.

WATSON, A/B Cyril: Royal
Navy: Central Leeds Br.
British Union: age 21:
killed in action HMS
Hardy, Narvik, April 10
1940: Remembered on
Plymouth Naval Memorial

Suburban Blackshirts:

Kingston on Thames

BY GORDON BECKWELL

KINGSTON-UPON-THAMES, where most of the Saxon Kings, from Edward the Elder to Ethelred were crowned: where the first armed force of the parliamentary army assembled and the last attempt in favour of Charles 1 made - here in 1932, developing into a bustling suburban centre in south-west London - one of the earliest branches of British Union was born, its activity only ending in 1940 when its officers were detained under Regulation 18B.

The Branch, which also covered Surbiton, Tolworth and New Malden, had 125 active members at its peak in the late 1930s according to activist the late Flo Elliott. Working on Professor Robert Skidelsky's estimate of three non-active members for every Division 1 and 11 [active] member, we can conclude there were some 4-500 card carrying members in the district.

The first known Officer-in-Charge was Mr. Tunbridge who held the rank of Section Leader in April 1934. By the end of the year the branch had moved from its original basement premises into an imposing 4-storey District Headquarters at 16 Surbiton Road and had its own Defence Force with at least 30 members, its role to protect local speakers from organised Red disruption and violence at meetings. In 1936 the DHQ moved to 3B Crown Passage close to the busy market centre, and finally in 1940 relocated to 66 London Road.

Kingston District was part of the 1st London Area of British Union under District Inspector T.C.H. Blay, a garage-owner who

BRITISH UNION HISTORY

MOST STUDIES of British Union concentrate on national activities, Mosley meetings and major events in the Movement's history. Apart from Yorkshire, Birkenham, Ilford, and East London, little has been written about branch history. Yet the real strength of British Union lay in its 350 active branches. Hardly a town in Britain was without one and their story can often be found by those willing to delve into libraries, local archives, and questions to local residents

lived in Staines. By 1936 the District Officer was A.E. Mason whose wedding in Blackshirt uniform was attended by many local uniformed Blackshirts. He is believed to have been killed in action at Dunkirk but his death has not yet been traced by Comrade researchers.

Mason was followed as District Leader by John Nickolls and finally by John Danby. Although only D/L for a short time, 'Old Nick', as Nickolls was known, was the driving force in the branch right up until his detention in 1940. At various times he was also District Treasurer and Assistant D/L (Sales). To qualify for full uniform he had to sell his quota of 'Actions' which he did from his favourite sales pitch outside Woolworths in Kingston Market and years later it was his proud boast that despite the thousands of papers sold there over the years, he was only attacked once. His father, a Non-Conformist Minister, preached against the war from the pulpit at the outbreak of hostilities.

John Danby was the son of a senior police officer in Hull. Former neighbours

remember him selling tickets for Mosley's big 1938 Surbiton meeting and him being taken away by the police in the 1940 detention witch-hunt although this apparently did not lead to the 18B concentration camps. His next appearance was in army uniform at a Danby family funeral, standing by the side of his brother Frank. John had been granted compassionate leave and Frank Danby, who had been British Union District Leader for Hull East branch, had been graciously granted 'leave' by the Home Secretary from his 18B detention, to attend the last rites of his wife, child, father, aunt uncle - in handcuffs.

When Frank was detained he had not long been married and his wife Olga, also a British Union member, was expecting their first child. After the birth of the baby, Mr. Danby senior arranged for the whole family to spend some time with his brother in Belfast and they were all killed in an air raid.

Shortly after Kingston's last District Leader was killed in the war he had sought to prevent and the last District Leader of Hull East, bereft of all



Kingston Blackshirts in the British Union march to the West End after the police ban on the East London march on October 4 1936

his family, came to live in Kingston with his brothers widow on release from his British concentration camp. Later they married and moved to Derby and as a close comrade, the late John Charnley said in his memoirs: "He was never the same again....he lost all interest in politics, and who could blame him?"

The first known Womens Officer was Mrs. Martin who was superceded in December 1933 by Miss Faulkner. By 1937 the Womens District Leader (also the Womens Canvas Organiser for the 1st London Area) was Miss Blanche Greaves who came from a Blackshirt family in North Kingston. She was also Bass Drummer in British Union Womens Drum Corps, and on May 25 1940, during the first mass arrests of British Union members, she married fellow Kingston member Robert Mann at Norbiton, the announcement of the occasion in the penultimate 'Action' concluding with "Hail Mosley!". Flo Greaves, mother of Blanche was well-known locally as a member, an association she maintained in Union Movement after the war.

The branch activities centred around regular Saturday evening meetings by the War Memorial near Kingston Market which before the war remained open, in common with other London street markets, until late in the evening.

Visiting speakers included NHQ's Clement Bruning and 'Mick' Clarke, the District Officer for Bethnal Green North East, later to become known in East London as 'the idol of Bethnal Green'.



Kingston Blackshirts join a poster parade for Peace in London's West End during the Abyssinia crisis in 1935

2 Suburban Blackshirts:

One of the latter's meetings in September 1935 was violently attacked by local Reds but they were firmly resisted by Kingston Blackshirts, earning them the respect of the local stallholders. 'Mick' was always well received in Kingston afterwards. A month later Bruning gained a surprising degree of sympathy for his views when at their invitation he debated with local Liberals.

Clement Bruning, one of five Blackshirt brothers, was to die in 1942 in a German concentration camp and though he was a civilian, now lies in a Common-War Graves Cemetery in Poland. Particularly poignant was that as Clement lived out the last year of his life in a German concentration camp, his brother Guy was incarcerated without charge or trial in a British concentration camp, falsely labelled a potential traitor by the political establishment.

The Bruning affair is one of the unsolved mysteries concerning a number of Blackshirts who died or were missing in the war. There is no Registration of his death in any British Government records. Just his name on a grave in a Polish cemetery.

Another popular meeting place in Kingston was the corner of Canbury Park Road and Richmond Road where Blay, Nickolls and Bruce Tomkins spoke regularly. The branch targeted Canbury Ward — Kingston's main working class area centred around the Hawker Aircraft Works — for special attention and had intended to contest local elections there. Well attended meetings were held at the factory gates during lunch break and two over-zealous members were arrested for advertising them in paint late one night on the factory wall.

In February 1937 the branch held a party in the Ward at St. Paul's Church for over 100 children and a year later a successful annual dinner at St. Luke's Social Centre behind the Hawker Works. That so many children were sent by their parents to the Blackshirt's party shows the growing support they had in a ward where unemployment was high and housing conditions mostly sub-standard. Other social occasions were the branch's two-shillings-and

-sixpence dances at Claremont Hall, Surbiton, which were always a sell-out.

Major events included a meeting at Coronation Baths Hall in the autumn of 1936 and at Surbiton Assembly Rooms in October 1938. William Joyce, then BU Director of Propaganda addressed the former during the course of which women interrupters were ably ejected by local Blackshirt women stewards. Six months later Joyce was expelled from the Movement. Oswald Mosley, the Leader spoke at the latter and was favourably reported by the local press. The Hall was packed to capacity, many waiting outside unable to enter but determined to show their support for O.M. when he left, far outnumbering the Red protesters.

Labour Party's Neville Laski was severely heckled by local BU supporters at Kingston Guildhall in 1939 when calling for more money for foreign refugees. As Bruce Tomkins explained in local paper, this was because the Council had banned British Union from putting the British case in the same Hall and had also banned its paper 'Action' from local libraries.

Another important activity was house-to-house canvassing and over half of Kingston households had been delivered literature before war came. In 1938, Mosley's new book *Tomorrow We Live* was sent free to all prominent residents.

The Movement's papers were sold at regular pitches outside Woolworths and Surbiton Station and Flo Elliott also held a pitch every Friday outside the Empire Theatre opposite Kingston Bus Station.

A line of paper sellers, known as a 'Sales Drive' to its members, spaced at regular intervals from one side of Kingston, through the centre to the River Thames was periodically set up and the route became



'Old Nick' - John Nickolls in Peveril Concentration Camp, Peel, Isle of Man in 1941 (left) with Bob Row, Lancaster the present Editor of 'Action' and Dan Tierney, Norwood

known to locals as 'The Fascist Mile'.

When not involved in political activity its members were often found in a cafe opposite the Coronation Stone. The Branch also regularly donated blood to the Transfusion Service. Boxing matches were also held with other branches who had members proficient in the noble art.

In January 1935 they met a team from NHQ at 'Black House', Chelsea, in the presence of **The Leader**, no mean boxer himself. In his early schooldays at Winchester is became clear he had inherited his grandfather Sir Oswald Mosley's boxing skill — he had been runner-up for the British middle-weight title. The young Mosley was refused permission by his headmaster to enter the Public Schools Championships.

The Kingston team of Randall, Laurence, Brumpton, Green and Dickerson lost 4-1 but the latter won a free flight over London for being, although a loser, one of the best fighters of the evening.

On the afternoon of October 4 1936, a contingent

of Kingston Blackshirts assembled in the Apple Market outside the DHQ for inspection before entraining for the Movement's 4th Birthday March in East London, to become known as the Battle of Cable Street. On their return, with members of Richmond and Spelthorne branches, they held an impressive march through the town led by District Inspector Blay to protest at the banned Birthday March. In May 1937, though no longer permitted under the law to wear the Blackshirt, an even larger march was held through the town, this time accompanied by the London Corps of Drums.

A large house in Ewell Road, Tolworth was used for garden parties to raise funds, a venue that was also used for a successful meeting held by ex-suffragette Mercedes Barrington, the BU Parliamentary Candidate for Fulham West.

Sub-branches of Kingston were opened at Teddington (August 1934) where Hunter spoke regularly, Hampton (1937) and Thames Ditton the same year. These were the only directions left open for expansion as adjacent Richmond, Twickenham, Sutton, Epsom, and Wimbledon already had established branches.

Kingston British Union continued to campaign vigorously for 'An honourable peace with Britain and Empire intact' right up until the Government banned the Movement in June 1940. Meetings were still being held at the War Memorial, the lat by Bruce Tomkins, an engineer, who spoke to a large sympathetic crowd with good sales of 'Action' and many new members still joining.

"We always come back"

After the war a branch of **Union Movement** was quickly formed in Kingston in 1948 with Fred Charles (a former Limehouse BU official) as Branch organiser. Bruce Tomkins (and his sister), Flo Greaves and Nickolls are known to have rejoined at this time. Ex-Navy boxing champion Tommy Moran spoke in Kingston Market and O.M. visited the district to speak at the Branch Leader's tea rooms in nearby Walton-on-Thames.

Evidence of continued activity are to be found in painted slogans and the sun-flash visible until recently opposite the site



Kingston Branch Dinner at the Kingston Hotel in March 1939: R to L seated top table: Mr. Nickolls Snr; John Nickolls, Asst D/Ldr; unknown; Blanche Greaves, W/D/Ldr; a Special Branch agent; unknown; Bill Risdon, NHQ Staff; John Danby, District Leader.

The presence of an SB agent says something of the importance attached to Kingston Branch



HAIL-AND FAREWELL 'CHUCK'

News from the past - across some 60 years and across some 6000 miles - a letter bearing a Canadian postmark.

GREETINGS!

I have received a photocopy of the outer pages of COMRADE 28 so thought I would contact you.

I was leader of the CANADIAN UNION which was affiliated to the BUF. I am now 76 and crippled with arthritis but there is nothing wrong with my memory except perhaps dates!

Welcome CHARLES 'BRANDEL' CRATE to Friends of O.M.

I was raised in the Northern Ontario bush country. An easy country to make a bare living, a difficult one to make a good one.

My parents moved to a Toronto working-class suburb in 1927 just before the stock market crash that resulted in the deep depression. My father, an ironworker, was suddenly unemployed. My mother found a poorly paid job making clothes. Because there was no work for those without qualifications, I went to High School, taking Junior and Senior Matriculations followed by a Special Commercial Course.

The depression brought not only poverty but a degree of political awareness. Youth movements became political and Europe's new movements were subjects of discussion. The Communists had an existence that was more theoretical than real in Canada, but had suddenly begun to increase and lead demonstrations. Reports from Soviet Russia suggested that Communism was not the answer. Capitalism and Communism were both found wanting. Social Democracy seemed to provide part of the answer but it was intentionally a slow process.

I was interested in solving the social-economic-political problems that undermined Canadian prosperity and my reading included a series of articles by Mussolini in The Family Herald, a weekly farming paper and was much impressed. Fascism was solving many of Italy's problems while preserving religion and the family.

When a genuine Fascist movement led by Sir Oswald Mosley in Britain received

some publicity I was again impressed. An article by Sir Oswald in (of all things) the Christian Science Monitor led me to believe that the British movement had the answer. I wrote for information. I received policy literature and I joined the Movement by return mail, with two of my classmates.

Shortly after the BUF advised that a group had been formed in Winnipeg and was affiliated to the BUF. I contacted them - the Canadian Fascist Party and heard from their 'caretaker' leader Howard Simkin. He was in ill health and unable to carry on. Would our group in Ontario take over? If so, and I could activate the membership he would recognise me as the leader.

At the ripe age of 17 I was sceptical of my ability to lead and I was ill-prepared. I had however formed a group in my high school and had a number of out-of-town correspondents in Quebec, Ontario and the west. I had developed into a goodish orator and I therefore accepted the leadership.

I and other Canadian Union members took part in Canadian Youth Congress in Ottawa and when I spoke in a mixture of High School

and bush French picked up as a child I received tremendous applause from the French-Canadian delegates who formed about one-third of the Congress. Because of their separatist leaning they would not however (with a few exceptions) join but the speech made headlines in the principle paper and was prominently featured in the bulk newspapers from coast-to-coast resulting in an increase of membership - and promptly fired from a very poorly paid job I had obtained.

For political purposes I had adopted the name of my maternal grandfather - Charles Brandel - who had been a founder of the original Canadian Labour Party so in my own name I sat an exam and obtained a minor but relatively well-paid civil service post and was able to devote half my income to the party. I was able then, with help, to launch THE THUNDERBOLT, a monthly which I was able to keep going until the war. It was at first mimeographed but I then found a printer who printed it at cost in return for my editing of an English page of a foreign-language paper he printed.

We kept in touch with British Union and distri-

buted and sold subs for Action and Blackshirt. I corresponded with Raven Thomson and Bill Rison and had one letter with some complimentary remarks from O.M.

When war came I dissolved the Canadian Union and advised members to obey the law but work for a negotiated peace. Several of our members were nevertheless interned as was our printer.

My telephone was tapped and attempts were made to detain me. I had however let it be known in certain quarters that I had gained some data on a scandal involving a provincial premier, as well as another leading politician, and this had been lodged with reliable people who would mail it to the media if I was interned.

I was however fired from my civil service job which as I had a perfect record would normally would have been impossible but a federal Order in Council did the trick. I contested its legality for a time but finally settled for reference implying I had resigned.

So I moved west along the Alaska Highway, taking jobs in construction and mining and on the way stopped off in Alberta to ask the Social Credit government to assist in freeing a member who had been interned on a trumped-up charge. I met three of the Cabinet and other officials who promised help. Two weeks later I was arrested on a serious 'treason' charge having been framed by the Social Credit people who testified I'd said things I had not said. I was granted bail after spending nearly a month in jail and returned for the Spring Assizes.

I was fortunate in getting an honest judge who refused to hear the case and directed the indictment be not filed. He said he had read the evidence and even if I had said and done what they claimed I had not broken any law, and he further instructed the police to leave me alone in future.

I had not been conscripted because of a minor hernia incurred in a mine accident but was offered the operation if I'd join the army. I had it but the army then didn't call me. So I joined the Navy and although offered officer training I enlisted as a postal rating. After brief training I arrived

★ STOP PRESS ★

A short digest of recent letters from **CHUCK CRATE** had been written, to welcome him to F.O.M. Just prior to going to press, we learned of his sudden and unexpected death, so we have extended our story in our respect of a man of unswerving commitment to his beliefs, of great courage, and one, although very few of us in Britain knew him, can we feel, be honoured with our last salute of "Farewell Old Comrade"

AND SO LONG ERIC

Old comrade ERIC WHITTLETON has passed on. Before he died he sent his first contribution to COMRADE, in dedication to those locked away with him in Stafford Gaol in 1940 - the unconvicted, British Political Prisoners of World War II.

IN STAFFORD GAOL—

THEIR SPIRIT LIVED!

WHEN a large party of 188 prisoners arrived at Stafford Gaol in July 1940, and lodged in the part called The Crescent - renovated in 1865 and unused since 1918 - conditions were intolerable until some realisation filtered through that we were not to be trifled with.

To maintain some sanity, several of our BU comrades got out several issues of a hand-bound 'comic', made up of painted cartoons with an

accent on our conditions. What happened to them in the end I have no idea.

Three of the artists, among others, were 'Dex' — Frank Dexter, 'Mac' — Michael McLean, and Don Chambers and I got them to each do a cartoon which I got autographed by, I think, all those then in gaol.

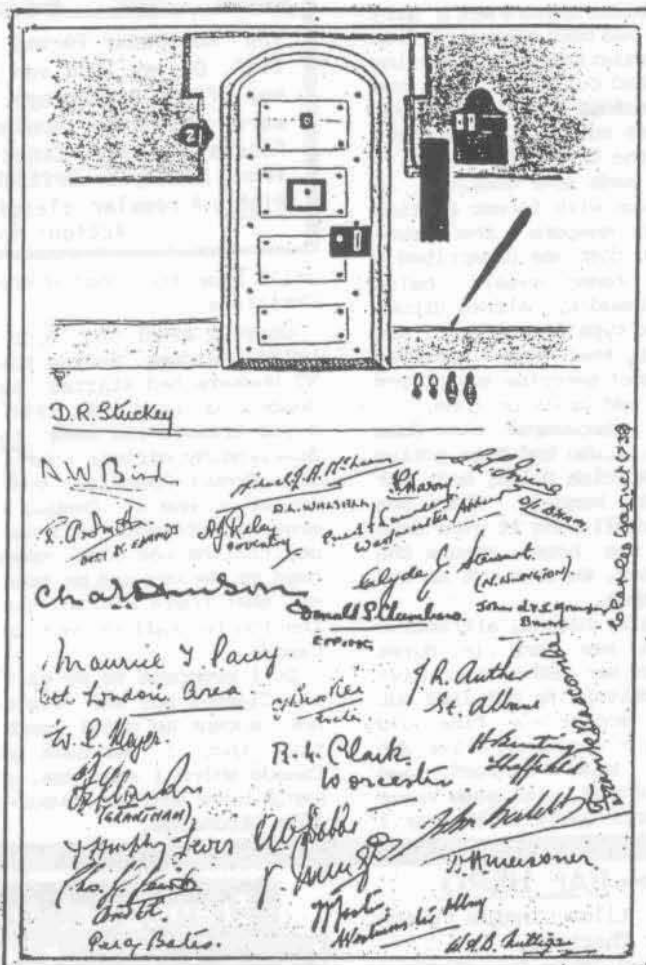
Every signature still
still brings back a memory
to me and I know our spir-
its were maintained by the
sharing of a great ideal.

● 'Dex' was D/Treasurer of Derby; 'Mac' of Walsall, an ex-policeman, is reputed to have become a ballet dancer after the war which shows the versatility of Mosley's men!; Don Chambers was in the London Drum Corps and is our 'Old Comrades' trumpeter on the back page. His poignant story was told in COMRADE 19.

He had been taken to detention from the RAF for he had volunteered on the first day of the war. On release from detention the RAF refused him and he man-

aged to join the army from which he was soon, in failing health, released. In June 1943, at 24, he died from melanotic carcinoma, just

three years after they had put him away without charge or trial, from where it is believed originated his fatal disease. [Ed]



4 FAREWELL 'CHUCK'

at CFMO land-ship Niobe near Greenock, Scotland.

Whilst there I met a girl who had been evacuated from a London suburb after being bombed out three times and I decided to marry her but I was suddenly transferred to the London CFMO.

I made some contacts in London with former British Union members - the Movement then was prescribed - and found myself being followed by Alfred Hitchcock type detectives. I saw to it that they received lots of exercise and played the odd prank on them.

I discovered that Joan H....., who had been active in British Union, had her house bugged. When her doorbell rang it also rang in the house across the street. We soon put an end to that.

Tall, blonde, attractive Joan was born in Burma where her father was a Civil Servant. He had died but her mother - a fine old lady - very much alive. She had been charged, and acquitted, with some vague offence early in the war. I

THE THUNDERBOLT

THE CORPORATE STATE IN CANADA

"Grouped Editorial Committee" "Editorial Board" "Editor"

The newspaper format 'THUNDERBOLT' launched in 1937. During 1935 and 1936 the newsheet had been run off by mimeograph. The two 'lightning bolts' were the party emblem of the Canadian Union of Fascists - later Canadian Union, and was derived from Mosley's British Union 'lightning flash'.

Right: A regular classified ad in 'Blackshirt' and 'Action' in the late 1930s

still hear from Joan every Christmas.

Shortly after the 'doorbell' incident, and as the V2 Rockets had started to descend on London in 1944, I was transferred back to Scotland. My officer there, the French-Canadian son-in-law of one of Quebec's most vociferous anti-war politicians was also opposed to the war and he told me that there was an intention to draft me back to Canada.

So I proposed to my girl in Glasgow but she would not accept me until such time that I was back in Canada which I soon was, a month later with an Honourable Discharge.

Back in Canada I set about getting a passage for my fiancée. It took nearly two years, the costs of which left me broke and we married in Yellowknife, North-West Territories.

It was a wise choice and we're still married with two daughters and six grandchildren.

I have kept moderately active, especially politically, helped by a scooter provided by Veterans Affairs. I support several movements and local causes and have opposed the war-guilt trials here. They have cost upwards of 5 million dollars to set up and the first trial cost the government at least 5 million

and the defence, without putting up witnesses secures an acquittal. The old Hungarian acquitted was about 80 and in failing health. The second indictment failed because of the death of the government's main witness. The third case was thrown out by an honest judge who said it was impossible for the defence to get witnesses after so many years.

Despite this costly fiasco as an example, I see that in Britain the idiots in the House of Commons have overruled the Lords and passed an Act to go down the same road.

Every now and again I get a blast from some quarter or discover my 'phone has been bugged. I usually can counter-blast successfully but suffer some damage.

Keep up the good work.

● We bid Farewell to CHUCK CRATE with the lines from Tennyson in which he found the proper term for his CU emblem:

"....Blowing over
heath and holt
In its teeth a
thunderbolt..."

And for him.

[Ed]

1 RAF HERO

100 miles inside France near Chartres.

Soon after, from Harrowbear, Devon, he was again leading his nine Typhoons in a fighter sweep over France. It was a cold February day, cloud merging with a sea so choppy that a pilot's dinghy would not long survive, and so cold that a pilot's survival was less than an hour. Bad cloud conditions over the French coast decided Warnes to scrub the operation but they would return low over the sea to look for enemy shipping. I borrow from the story told by top World War 2 Allied fighter pilot 'Johnnie' Johnson for the detail of the actions that were lead to the deaths of a young Australian pilot, and ex-Blackshirt Geoffrey Warnes.

Some ten miles west of Guernsey they were 'flying only a few feet above the sea...when the engine of the leading Typhoon cut and Warnes said:

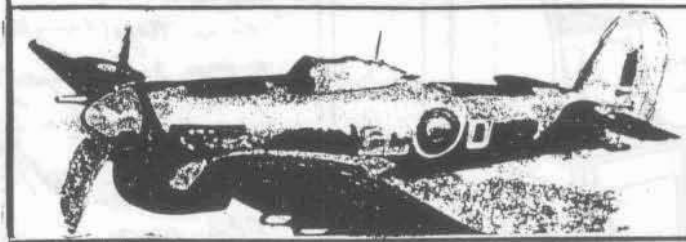
"I'm going to ditch."

The eight pilots circled over their leader. One pilot climbed up a few hundred feet and gave a long Mayday transmission.

Transport to 'train-buster'



A BUF bottle-proof van, the 'agony wagons' which transported Blackshirts to and from meetings, one of which was based at Leeds and ranged as far north as Newcastle and south to Birmingham under the charge of West Riding Transport Officer GEOFFREY WARNES. Good training no doubt for his role in the RAF in World War 2. (Below) A 'Tiffie', the Hawker Typhoon fighter-bomber rocket-firing 'tank-buster' flown by Squadron Leader Warnes



...Flying Officer Tuff... flew low over the ditched Typhoon and saw his squadron commander swimming towards what looked like a half-submerged dinghy.

There was no flak. No enemy fighters. No sudden decision in the heat of battle. There was only the struggling man, who wore contact lenses, in the

cold sea, the eight circling Typhoons, and Harrowbear ninety miles away.

Tuff switched on his radio and said:

"I think the C.O.'s hurt and can't get to his dinghy. I'm going to bale out and help him!"

Someone said: **"Don't be a bloody fool."** Back in the ops. room the controller overheard some of the pilots' conversations and alerted the rescue organisation.

Tuff baled out. The visibility suddenly worsened and although the Typhoons circled for another thirty minutes, neither pilot was ever seen again.

Eighteen members of Leeds British Union, falsely labelled potential traitors by lying politicians, suffered the infamy of detention without trial in the last war. Squadron Leader Geoffrey Warnes was the seventh of Leeds members - including one previously detained - known to have been killed in that war.

Geoffrey Warnes would have approved that his full story would one day be told.

IN MEMORIAM

'Hark! the sound of many voices,

Echoes through the vale of ages'

ANDREWS, E.J.D.: Canterbury Branch British Union 20 February 1940

AVEY, Capt. E.F. 'Bill': Southampton BU: 188 British political prisoner: London UM: at 93 oldest Chelsea Pensioner. February 1976

BEAVAN, Arthur: BU '1' Squad: D/L West Ham: Upton Parliamentary Candidate: 188 British Political Prisoner: UM. 23 March 1988

BROCKETT, Joe: British & Empire Heavyweight Boxing Champion 1919-23: BU: 188 British Political Prisoner: UM: At 87. March 1965

BROCK-GREGG, Tom: BU: RAF: 188 British Political Prisoner arrested on active service Far East: husband of BU Chf. Womens Organiser March 1982

CAPLETON, L. 'Cape': BU D/L Croydon winning Action Sales Cup: Later D/Insp: 188 British Political Prisoner: Bristol UM. March 1961

CLAYTON, Charlie: East London BU and UM Drum Corps. 17 March 1978

DONOVAN, J.E. Limehouse BU: seaman 'Action' contributor 'Don Beneford'. February 1938

DOANE, Dorothy, Viscountess: BU Parl. Cand. North Norfolk: UM. 26 March 1957

EATON, W.G. 'Bill': BU D/L Lancaster, D/Insp. N/Lancs & Westmorland BU Parl. Cand. Burnley: holder BU Gold Award. 5 February 1989

EATON, Barry: East London BU and UM. February 1976

FERRIS, Don: Nottingham BU: 188 British political prisoner. March 1952

FULLER, Maj-Gen J.P.C. CB CBE DSO: original tank expert, thinker and writer: organised British tanks World War 1: BU Parliamentary Candidate Westminster St. George's. 10 February 1966

GOOD, Ann: BU and UM speaker: O.M.'s UM secretary: Early 1979

GREEN, John: Hackney BU and Essex UM. March 1959

HAMILTON, Sir Archibald: popular member at Selsey Blackshirt Camps March 1939

HAWLEY, Frank: Sheffield teacher: BU: 188 British Political Prisoner: UM organiser and election candidate. 26 March 1985

HAYES, Florence: BU D/L Bournemouth, Womens County Officer, Rants: 188 British Political Prisoner: UM. March 1982

HOOVER, Bill: Shoreditch Union Movement. March 1949

HUTTON, William: former D/T Edgbaston, Birmingham BU: February 1937

JONES, Barry: Shoreditch BU: E/Yorks Regt: UM E/London election candidate 1949. February 1990

KURT, A.E. 'Alf': BU Parl. Candidate King's Lynn: 188 British Political Prisoner: UM. March 1974

LEITCH, Mrs: BU Limehouse Branch: 101 year old mother of Gladys Walsh, Clacton, who passed away December 1990. 3 February 1973

LIVINGS, Leslie: Leytonstone British Union March 1935

BATCLIFFE, Ralph of Bures, Suffolk: BU & UM: at 85: 22 February 1989

STEEL, Capt. C.H. BU Parl. Candidate Guildford: after injury from black on black march. February 1939

SUMNER, E.A.: Broadstairs BU & UM. February 1973

VALERIANI, Epaminondas, 'Pam': well known London BU member and proprietor of The Holborn Distributing Company. He organised the sale of Action by street sellers and newsagents, and during the war, at risk of arrest, provided office accommodation for the 188 Detainees Aid Fund. At 81. February 1959

WISSEMAN, Frank C: D/Tr. Worcester BU: music and singing tutor Worcester Cathedral School: composer of BU's Battle Song and author of unpublished *Delayed Harvest*, written in a British concentration camp. 17 March 1983

WONTER, James H: 78 Canadian Bn 1914-18: BU D/Leader Dorset North & 188 British Political Prisoner: Wessex Br. UM. March 1953

BAKER, Bill Howard: early member Union Movement: journalist, author, publisher. 13 February 1991

BEET, James Clifford: Prop. Off. N/E Leeds British Union: NHQ Staff speaker: 188 British Political Prisoner. April 1987

BRUNING, Peter Lewis: One of five Ealing Blackshirt brothers now all deceased - Clement in German Concentration Camp 1942 20 April 1985

CAMPBELL, Roy: author, poet, soldier, patriot: good friend of Franco Spain and British Union. April 1957

CHITTEL, E.B.: Morden British Union bus driver. April 1939

DENTON, Walter: British Union D/L Doncaster: 188 British Political Prisoner then armed forces: Union Movement April 1962

DICKINSON, H. 'Pop': Manchester British Union: father of Regional Inspector Charlie Dickinson. April 1940

DIXON, Mrs Lillian: wife of Br. Union D/L Jameson Dixon. April 1966

DOHERTY, Albert: Br. Union Manchester Hulme D/Treas. April 1937

DURIG, 'Paddy': Union Movement: London Drum Corps. 12 April 1986

EDWARDS, Henry: British Union: S/London Union Movement. April 1976

EDWARDS, Bywel: Birmingham Union Movement. April 1981

EASTWELL, Jack: Bethnal Green Brit. Union: Union Movement. April 1975

ENGLISH, Mrs Marjorie Angela: mother of Kensington Union Movement Organiser Michael English. April 1952

ENGCH, Bernard: Harmondsworth, Mdx: Union Movement. April 1980

GRINOV, Sid: London Brit. Union and Union Movement: father of 1950s young Union Movement speaker Trevor. 25 March 1991

HOGGARTH, George: Brit. Union Eye, Suffolk D/Tr: 188 British Political Prisoner: Union Movement. 9 April 1985

HOGKINS, Miss Enid: UM: aunt of BU & UMs Bill Harris. April 1980

LAMBERT Senior, George: Shoreditch Brit. Union and Union Movement: father of BU and UMs George, Military Medallist. 19 April 1952

MERRITT, William: Tottenham British Union: crippled ex-soldier: in Australia. April 1980

NIGHTINGALE, A: British Union D/L Horsham: 188 British Political Prisoner: Union Movement. April 1948

PEARSON, Lady: Brit. Union Parl. Candidate, Canterbury: Union Movement 10 April 1959

PHILLIPS, Joe: Limehouse Brit. Union: Union Movement. April 1951

PRITCHARD, David: Br. Union NHQ Staff: m/cycle accident April 1935

SHEPHERD, Fred: E/London Blackshirt Cadet: UM N/London Organiser 30 April 1988

SIBLEY, Alf: E/London Br. Union: husband, father UMs Ann & Jerry. April 1976

SIMPKINS, Eric: Woodford: Br. Union and UM Drum Corps: husband of Pam 4 April 1988

SISLEY, Charles P: St. Albans British Union: Proprietor and editor St. Albans Free Press. 4 March 1934

SMITH, 'Tubby': Limehouse British Union: husband of Ann. April 1984

SURETIES, C.H.R.: Dorset West Brit. Union: Union Movement. April 1982

TOMPKINS, Bruce: Kingston Br. Un. speaker: Un. Movement. 25 April 1990

WHITE, Albert: Early Union Movement member: N/W. London UM local election candidate. In Lancashire in his eighties. April 1991

WITHEY, Mrs F: Brixton Union Movement. February 1950

'Johnnie' Johnson, now Air Vice-Marshal, with 38 shot down the top Allied fighter pilot in World War 2. The story of Warnes death so impressed him that "I jotted down the bare facts in my diary."



Warnes had poor eyesight, but the doctors had fixed him up with contact lenses, and one of his party pieces was to loosen these lenses and let them drop into a tankard of beer at his favourite pub. The locals knew the trick but it astonished the casual visitor. Legend has it that he took a glass of stout with his early morning bath and smoked a cigar immediately after.

'Johnnie' Johnson

Wing Leader, 'Johnnie' Johnson: Chatto and Windus

Squadron Leader Warnes was a man of the Douglas

The Legendary Geoff Warnes

Bader mould. You either measured up to his standard or you were out. A brave man and a good leader. G.D.L., ex-263 Sqdn: Leeds

Geoffrey Warnes I remember well. I was a 15-year old student in September 1939, my college was closed because of the war so I took a job at Gilchrist Bros.

Then one day he arrived. He was then a Pilot Officer and I was told that he had worked for the firm, was on leave and had come to collect his car left there when war broke out.

He was in full uniform and had strong glasses. A good looking chap, very smart and impressive. A man of some station. I later learned about his "cat's eyes" and rise to be quite a notability in the RAF.

I got into RAF at 17 through the University Air Squadron and was in Bomber Command and became a

POW. I was shot down in the attack on Nuremberg, the worst of the war. All the rest of my crew were killed. F.F.: Leeds

[The Nuremberg raid on March 29/30 1944, a month Geoff Warnes died, was the RAF's 'black night' when 95 out of 795 bombers failed to return. [Ed]

I remember him clearly. A giant of a man and a great character. He joined my firm about 1938 but after the war started never saw him again but was kept in touch with what he was doing by my friends.

I did 6 1/2 years in a tank regiment, part of the 33rd Armoured Brigade which gave a good account of itself from Normandy to the Rhine. I never knew the real story (until now) of how this very brave and gallant young man met his death and how the other equally brave Australian made such a heroic att-

SECOND SUPPLEMENT
The London Gazette

BY FRIDAY, the end of JULY, 1940
Published by Authority

TUESDAY, 4 JULY, 1940

Distinguished Services Order
Acting Sqdn Leader Geoffrey Berrington Warnes, DFC, RAFVR, 263 Squadron.

"Since the award of the Distinguished Flying Cross this officer has been engaged on numerous operational sorties, both by day and night, which have included low level attacks on heavily defended railway targets and attacks on enemy shipping. One night in May 1943, (he) participated in the destruction of a medium sized motor vessel. He has displayed considerable powers of leadership and his skill and enthusiasm have been an example to others."

empt to save him and perished also.

Just one more awful example of the futility and obscenity of war that such valuable young lives were sacrificed. W.M.: Leeds

CHARLES CRATE

WE LEARN as we go to press of the sudden and unexpected death on March 7th of **CHARLES BRANDEL CRATE** of Saskatchewan, Canada who had been the leader of the Canadian Union, loosely affiliated to the BUF.

'Chuck' Crate had only recently made contact with FOM and we pay further tribute to him in our inside pages and offer our sincere regrets to English born Mrs. Crate.

3 Suburban Blackshirts:

of the Corporation Baths. A slogan still stands on a wall of Kingston Power Station advertising the book **Mosley - Right or Wrong?**

In 1964 Union Movement fought the Borough Elections in Kingston and Mr. A. Murray won the votes of nearly 1000 residents. Copies of 'Action' were still being distributed in Tolworth, Surbiton and the Maldens up until the late 1980s. This effectively concluded an active political tradition that lasted for nearly 60 years in the Borough.

The high level of local Blackshirt activity and the success in gaining a significant measure of local acceptability shows that even outside the East London Heartlands, British Union was capable of building a firm base for future progress — had not the tragedy of war intervened, a war in which, as British Union predicted, Britain gained nought — unless a developing Third World hybrid society is thought an asset — and lost all.

● **CORRECTION:** The report of the death in action of a Sgt Danby in Comrade No. 7 (1987) was based on incorrect official information. BU's Danby official death has not yet been traced. Ed.

Sources: Flo Elliott, wife of BU D/L Slough; George Pratton, BU D/L St. Marylebone; Sid Bailey, BU Cadet & UM; Fred Charles, BU Linschouse & UM Kingston; Charles Powell, neighbour of J. Danby; John Charnley BU D/L Hull West in "Blackshirts & Roses"; Mr. A. Murray, UM; John Christian, BU A/D/L (Sales) Clapham & UM; William Parsons, UM; Surrey Comet; The Blackshirt; Fascist Week; Fascist News; The Women Blackshirt; Action; Union; BU Official Gazette/Appointments List; Public Records Office, Kent.

OBITUARIES

ERIC WHITTLETON

With a sense of personal sorrow we report the sudden death on March 4 of **ERIC WHITTLETON**, one of the earliest members of British Union and its Ealing Branch in his 80th year.

The inspiration to join the BUF came from his mother, an even earlier member, her work in Movement associated with **Maud, Lady Mosley**, the Leader's mother, then Head of BUF Women. Eric's sister also joined.

When war came Eric edited a duplicated newsletter **Digest** for nearby Acton Branch, to keep members in touch. He then joined the army.

But not for long. A few weeks after enlistment he was arrested at his Army camp and hauled away for 18B imprisonment without charge or trial and after his release still kept under surveillance.

This is detailed in one of the few detainees files that have been released to the Public Record Office (HO45/25722). It reported him calling on another released detainee and gracious enough to describe him as 'a 32-year old well ordered original member'. He never saw his own personal file — it is apparently one of over 700 British Union members whose files are 'missing' or have been destroyed. Guilty men have historically wiped out the evidence that would have cleared Eric and others of any wrong-doing that led them to that wartime imprisonment, one of the most shameful episodes in British history.

Since the birth of FOM **Eric Whittleton** has been invaluable, for his memory of personalities and events, to our research activities, and just prior to his death, with a

donation, congratulated **Comrade** on its 'wide investments and its keep-a high standard'. He also sent cartoons sketched in concentration camp and autographed by prisoners adding: 'Every signature brings back a memory, and how our spirits were maintained by the sharing of a great ideal.'

And his last words? 'I am glad that this spirit is recognised in **COMRADE** today, and also glad we have kept in touch.'

HARRY LINKLETT

On March 17th in London, **HARRY LINKLETT**, age 82, one of three British Union brothers in East Ham Branch in the late 30s.

Harry had been an active member and on one occasion been awarded an autographed copy of **Mosley's Tomorrow We Live** for selling highest number of **Action**. During the war he served in the RAF.

We offer our condolences to surviving brother **John**, the Branch's former Dist/Treasurer.

DANNY GILL

We have to report the death in Liverpool, we believe towards the end of 1991, of **DANNY GILL**, an active member of British Union and who at one time is believed to have been a Liverpool District Inspector. The report of his death has been made by the new occupier of his home.

Danny Gill made many friends in detention and will be remembered by those detainees still with us, particularly if they should have been in "A" Room at Ascot Concentration Camp in 1940 when Danny was Room Leader.

LESLIE MILES

On March 29th in his 92nd year died **LESLIE CHARLES WATKINS MILES** who until his death was

Old Comrades



believed to be the oldest survivor of British Union.

A member of Enfield Branch, he had the unusual 'appointment' of Voluntary Accounts Inspector. In the months preceding the banning of the Movement in 1940, with many of the young members and Branch officers already in the armed forces, he was asked to 'try and keep the Branch together'.

It was the 25-year old Enfield speaker **Charlie Greenwood**, then temporary Acting District Leader who made the plea when they met by accident in the Town. They never met again.

For, as reported in **Comrade** 30 last year, **Captain Greenwood**, 8th Bn Parachute Regiment, was killed in action on D-Day 1944.

This news of 'young Charlie's' death 50 years years ago brought some comfort to **Leslie Miles** in his final year.

Now they are reunited in British Union.

Congratulations and Thanks

The Editor congratulates his **JOAN** on her powers of survival, tolerance, and **Golden Wedding** on March 21, and thanks those readers 'in the know' for Anniversary Cards.

'TALE' PIECE

'Half a crown and a pair of boots'

by FRED BAILEY

COMRADE
Sept/Nov 1992

I must traverse the Brick Lane area for a pair of antique boots — as long as the uppers are in good condition. I, with many British Union members, found cardboard soles very comfortable and quite warm when soggy. I'm sure I was given a pair to induce me to join Shoreditch Branch but I never got my half. Do you think I can now make a late application? **Pat O'Donagan Kent**

After **Fred Bailey's** story of Napoleon's army booted Blackshirts, old comrade **PAT** will receive from 'BOOTS' Bailey, as a debt of honour, his half-crown — plus inflation!

Published by John Christian for Friends of O.M.
12, Mulberry Close, London, E4 8BS

FRIENDS OF O.M.

British Union Day

6.30
pm

MAY-DAY
BUFFET
SUPPER

Saturday MAY 9th 1992

COMRADE

Newsletter of Friends of O.M.

No. 34.

MAY-JULY 1992

'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'



They 'served with distinction'

BLACKSHIRTS WAR RECORD

Second to None

IT IS unlikely that Mosley's Blackshirts—leading members of whom were imprisoned in late May, 1940—would have provided a fifth column: indeed many former Blackshirts served Britain with distinction in the war.

An undeniable truth that former Blackshirts know only too well, those that are left to remember, a truth which the death of many of their comrades in that unnecessary and avoidable war bears witness, and which the later generations who are *Comrade* readers are fully aware.

So what's new?

Quoted from historian *Andrew Roberts* article in the *Sunday Telegraph* on May 17, it is the first time in over 50 years that a national newspaper has recognised this long lost

truth. Mr. Roberts, who is the biographer of *Lord Halifax*, Foreign Secretary 1938-40, was deliberating on the situation in Britain if Hitler had invaded in 1940.

We congratulate Mr Roberts on his intellectual honesty, and his courage in defying the taboo—that 'political correctness' on truth when regarding Mosley and his Blackshirts reigning for over half-a-century—that 'PC' now spreading to Britain from America, newly discovered with horror by our liberal chattering classes.

Stir in your slumbers Mosley's Blackshirts. The full story of your selfless service will one day illuminate the pages of our history of your island race.

passes and a very large group gathered until all, 'except AC Verrall' were tannoyed to continue their

Turn to Page 6

'Another bloody Blackshirt'

IT was 1940 and Mosley and many of his Blackshirts had already been swept into the prisons and concentration camps without the inconvenience of a charge or trial when former Blackshirt, now Aircraftman *STAN VERRALL*, was on a train crowded with servicemen, returning from a spot of leave.

Stan, who died three years ago and is remembered in this issue's Memorial column, had been an active British Union speaker in East Essex unjoining the RAF in 1938.

On his train arriving at London's Victoria Station a tannoy directed all RAF personnel to report to RAF police for checking of

1939 British Union 1945 ROLL OF HONOUR

AITKEN, Sgt/L. Lionel: RAF 59 Sqn

shot down bombing German convoy off Dunkirk, lies in Dunkirk Town Cemetery: BUP 'I' Squad, Off I/C Black House NMQ 1935, brother of Andrew BUP, killed

RAF 1937 and Marjorie, BUP Women's D/Organiser. 7 July 1941

AUSTIN, Sgt. W.G. 'Bill': 1st Bn KRRC: killed in action Tunis, lies in Medjaze-el-Bab War Cemetery, Tunis: Liverpool British Union. 10 May 1943

AYRES, Pte. Francis 'Nipper': 6th Bn Green Howards, killed in action near Dunkirk, lies Oye-Plage Communal Cemetery, France: Limehouse British Union. At 20. 25 May 1940

CHAMBERS, Donald: Joined RAF first day WW2, then British Political Prisoner, then Army from which discharged to die at 24: Epping British Union, BU Drum Corps, 'Comrade's bugler. 18 June 1943

FAIRY, W/O David George: RAF 212 Sqn, killed on ops. Coochin, India, age 23, lies Madras War Cemetery: Leytonstone British Union. 27 June 1944

FITCH, W/Com. R.L.J. 'Tiggy' DFC: RAF, killed on ops., Norfolk, lies in St. Nicholas Churchyard, Kelvedon Hch Essex: Clapham British Union. At 26



21 May 1945

GILL, Sgt. Pil. B.W.: RAF VR, killed flying accident when instructing at No.3 Glider Training School after release from British concentration camp as Political Prisoner, lies Barehill Cem., Leeds: Leeds British Union: At 22.

28 May 1943

GREENWOOD, Capt. Charles: 8th Bn Parachute Regt, Army Air Corps, killed in action D-Day, lies Ranville War Cemetery, Normandy: APO Enfield British Union, Acting D/L 1939/40, London speaker. At 29.

6 June 1944

IRVINE, Pte. R: 1/5 Bn Queens R Regt, killed in action near Dunkirk, lies Strazeele Communal Cemetery, France: Shore-ditch British Union: At 21.

28 May 1940

MAYS, Spr. John Basil: R. Eng. dispatch rider killed Henswell RAF Station, Lincs, after Dunkirk evacuation: lies St. Chad Churchyard, Harpswell: W/Leeds British Union, Municipality Candidate: At 25.

26 July 1940

MULLEN, L/Cpl 'Paddy': Corps of Military Police, formerly Palestine Police, killed in action Battle of Knightsbridge Box, lies in Knightsbridge War Cemetery, Acroma, Libya: early British Union, BU '1' Squad.

12 June 1942

WALSH, Sgt. Michael: RAF VR: 156 Sqn. missing Brenen op. Remembered Runnymede Air Force Memorial: Limehouse British Union: At 23. 27 July 1942

'Comrade' makes Official Blackshirts 1940 death

A BLACKSHIRT SOLDIER'S GRAVE, where he lies with twenty-five RAF airmen in

Comrade: June/August 1991



WHEN last year Blackshirt Sapper JOHN MAYS was added to our Roll of Honour, it was the end of a two year search based on 50-year old information and the finding of his grave in a village churchyard.

But officially he was still alive, his death not listed in Army or civilian deaths at the General Registry Office.

Thanks to 'Comrade', that department has now rectified the omission.

OBITUARIES

Jeffrey Hamm and John Brody

Their part in MOSLEY'S FIGHT

By JOHN CHRISTIAN



JEFFREY HAMM speaking at Ridley Road for the British League of Ex-Servicemen and Women in August 1947

Jeffrey Hamm

PROBABLY the best known national figure of Mosley's post-war Movement, JEFFREY HAMM, died on May 1 at the age of 76. He was General Secretary of Union Movement for many years, and later Secretary of Action Society.

But it will be for his part in the 'Battle of Ridley Road' during that long summer of 1947 - leading to return to politics of Oswald Mosley and the birth of Union Movement - that he will be remembered by those who knew him well and were joined with him in the fight. His 'pale, pink, palpitating pansies, aimed from the platform at the Communist mob trying to prevent him speaking, for which he was arrested and bound over, a subject of derisive quotes in the media, will surely one day achieve the distinction of a listing in a dictionary of quotations. Nevertheless, if the warm, blunt, patriotic British spirit of the 1930s London East Ender, who unlike the chattering classes called a spade a spade, survives, so will Jeffrey Hamm's descriptive prose. If not it matters not.

Born in South Wales of a Welsh mother and an English father away fighting in World War 1 with the South Wales Borderers, Jeffrey recalled years later his

They both passed away on a day in May, Jeffrey on the first, John on the last. Both had joined Mosley after hearing a Blackshirt speaker, and both emerged from the war to take an active part in the new-born Union Movement, one to become nationally known, the other known only to his local comrades.

There were many Jeffrey's and John's whose service to Mosley began in the ranks of Union Movement. Many have passed on but there are those still with us, now in the autumn of their lives, who look back to their youth and, perhaps with a little sadness, but certainly with pride, to that beginning of their long march, and with that sense of union and bond of brotherhood unique to Mosley's men and women.

In our tribute to Jeffrey Hamm and John Brody, we few that are left of the fathering British Union, salute that unnamed throng, and in doing so, feeling a sense of history, have a little to say about those times.

But the death of old comrades is just a pause in the long march. The spirit of Mosley, of British Union, of Union Movement, perchance slumbers a little, but will never die.

vivid memories of the hunger and hardship in his native valleys during the Great Depression and his early political consciousness saw through the hypocrisy of a corrupted Labour Party who had sold out to International Finance, and the cynical Communist Party whose local councillors opposed workers having allotments because less hunger meant they would be less revolutionary.

It was a holiday in London in 1934 that changed the 'old life' of the 19 year old boy from Pontypool as he was to describe in his autobiography *Action Replay* more than half-a-century later.

Strolling down Kilburn High Road he came across a Blackshirt speaker shouting above the din of a howling mob. He was disgusted with the attempt to crush free speech and impressed with the Blackshirt message and went back with the Blackshirts to their local headquarters.

He returned to Pontypool and after several months of studying British Union literature, cast the dye in March 1935 and enrolled.

Within six months he had won two Essay Competitions promoted by *The Blackshirt* for his papers on the Movement's India Policy, and on Occupational Franchise.

In the summer of 1936 he said goodbye to his Welsh valley and spent the next four years teaching in Kent and Harrow. He attended a number of British Union meetings and took part in the larger marches, his professional life preventing regular activity.

He next accepted the offer of a teaching post in the Falkland Islands and off he sailed for that far-flung British possession but his stay was to be not for long. For at the same time that hundreds of Mosley's men in Britain were being arrested and detained without charge or trial under the infamous Emergency Defence Regulation 18b in June 1940, they also came for Jeffrey and put him away, ultimately in a South African prison camp. Released a year later he was shipped back to Britain where he was met by the police and served with a restriction order. So he dutifully reported to Morcambe police having found there a temporary job



JOHN BRODY in Colour Party at Union Movement's May Day Rally at Ridley Road in 1950

in NAAFI stores, but again, not for long.

He had volunteered for the forces and in no time was in the Royal Armoured Corps, serving for three years. But British Security obviously maintained their watch on this dangerous unknown and non-active Mosley supporter for his Army life consisted of the periodic sudden posting to different units and the omission from drafts until one day in 1944 he was suddenly given his discharge papers recording his 'Very Good' military conduct, but that nevertheless 'His Majesty has no further use for your services'. Subsequent pursuit of an explanation with the War Office elicited only a confirmation.

Taking an office job and strolling in Hyde Park on his first free Sunday he heard a courageous ex-Blackshirt vigorously denouncing the 18b detentions at Speaker's Corner, and meeting another ex-member in the crowd they discussed organising a campaign for ex-service rights, extended to a defence of Mosley and the banned British Union.

What happened next after some further talks, has probably never been fully understood, by friend or enemy. Jeffrey Hamm, who had never before spoken on a street corner, took a portable platform to a street off Edgware Road and alone held a meeting on those proposals. Some

In Palestine, 'Jewish terrorists were murdering British soldiers, and Jeffrey Hamm and the British League of Ex-Servicemen were fighting off Jewish violence in Ridley Road'

John Brody

HEARING OSWALD MOSLEY speak in 1939 changed the whole life of the young JOHN BRODY. He was then a Communist but was immediately converted. About to join British Union, the war came and he was immediately called up into the Army, his service lasting until 1947, the last year with his regiment, the Middlesex, in Palestine at a time when, as told elsewhere in our obituaries, Jewish terrorists were murdering British soldiers, and Jeffrey Hamm and the British League of Ex-Servicemen were fighting off Jewish violence in Ridley Road.

He was discharged just before the birth of Union Movement and immediately enrolled. He became District Treasurer of Epping Branch and also took an active part in all the London activities, and later bore, with pride, the

Circle and Flash Standard - the converted pre-war British Union Honour Standard - at many of Union Movement marches.

Until he retired in 1985 from his Lambourne Forge in Walthamstow, John was a skilled worker in architectural metalwork and held the Diploma of Merit of The Worshipful Company of Blacksmiths, and a member of the City of London's Blacksmith's Guild. He was also in the City's Royal Naval Reserve.

What many of his comrades did not know is that he had been awarded the Queen's Commendation Medal for Bravery. Some years ago he had jumped into the River Thames and rescued a small boy who had fallen off a Portuguese ship during a Tall Ships gathering. In a strong current he seized the boy, got both to a jetty and held on until both were rescued.

In latter years John was a regular attendee at Friends of O.M. functions. We will miss his friendly face.

2 ← Jeffrey Hamm

might say it was the action of a fool, others as of great courage. Those who knew him can vouch for the error of the first judgement.

The meeting went off without trouble but when later he tried again in Hyde Park he encountered violent opposition, reported in the morning papers.

In East London small groups of older Mosley supporters who for three years had only been able to meet socially, heard of his exploits. The war was nearly over and they were straining at the leash to break their Government enforced silence and nail the lies about Mosley and his Blackshirts. They had joined the long-established **British League of Ex-Servicemen and Women**, but with most of the British Union organisers and speakers still in the services or in dire straights

and trying to pick up the pieces of their lives after their detention, it was decided that this unknown young Mosleyite who was having a go in West London be invited to speak in East London. Prime mover was one-time Labour Party stalwart and later dedicated Mosley man **Jack Bailey**, father of Fred and Sid, well known to members of Union Movement, and associates of Friends of O.M.

So Jeffrey Hamm came to Bethnal Green, meetings were held on Sunday mornings and he took over the leadership of British League and for the next year the reconstituted organisation made steady progress, holding street meetings and dealing with ex-servicemen's claims.

By early 1947 the once young men were returning from the war, the meetings got larger and in the

Turn to Page 4

DAILY EXPRESS

EXCLUSIVE PHOTO: FIVE JEWS
KILLED, MANY INJURED

ATLASE MAY TELL OF CUTS
IN BREAD AND BUTTER

HOLIDAYS ABROAD BANNED
FOR BRITISH CHILDREN

HANGED BRITONS: Picture will shock the world



IN A GROVE OF
EUCALYPTUS...
IT WAS THE
PLACE WHERE
THE BRITISH
ARMY SERGEANTS
WERE MURDERED
BY JEWISH
TERRORISTS

Wanted for
murder



Yezernitsky
murderer seen

LEST WE FORGET

THE GODFATHERS OF INTER- NATIONAL TERROR

OUR Daily Express picture of August 1st 1947 shows British Army Sergeants MERVYN PAICE, 43, and CLIFFORD MARTIN, as they were found in a eucalyptus grove in Palestine, murdered by slow strangulation with piano wire, their bodies booby-trapped to kill those who would cut them down.

Killers were two of the most bloody and savage terrorists organisations of the Twentieth Century, IRGUN EVAI LEONI, led by Menachem Begin who was wanted for murder by the British authorities, [pictured above in the Daily Express report] who would later become Prime Minister of Israel, and the STERN GANG, one of whose leaders was Iztak Shamir, then known as Yezernitsky, was also wanted, and like



1940's
Yezernitsky
Wanted
Terrorist



1990's
Shamir
Feted Prime
Minister

terrorist Begin, became Israel Prime Minister.

By May 1948 when Britain terminated her mandate and withdrew her forces, some 90 British police and 200 soldiers had been murdered and the killing had started with the Second World War barely over, the war in which thousands of British fighting men had already shed their blood in liquidating Jewry's mortal enemy, Adolf Hitler's Nazi Germany.

But even during the war, Shamir's killers had assassinated, in Cairo in 1944, the Minister Resident for the Middle East, Lord Moyne, which even persuaded Churchill, their Zionist ally and friend of the Jews, to condemn them as 'gangsters worthy of Nazi Germany', and in 1948, it has been alleged that Shamir was believed to be responsible for planning the murder of Count Folke Bernadotte, the United

Turn to Page 6

Their part in MOSLEY'S FIGHT

3 ← Jeffrey Hamm

summer, the League started Sunday night meetings at Ridley Road, Dalston where much support had been found and was the site of massive pre-war Mosley meetings. 'For one hour between 8 and 9 pm about a thousand working men and women cheered wildly and hysterically, as one fascist speaker after another paid homage to Sir Oswald Mosley (The greatest living Englishman)' said the Sunday Pictorial. 'Jeffrey Hamm' it continued 'to cheers of approval, told them he was preparing the ground for the triumphant return of Mosley.'

This increasing support was too much for the Communist Party and militant Jewish organisations and they organised to smash the meetings and banish free speech off the streets of East London.

In particular, the Jewish 43 Group laid on fleets of cars to bring their thugs to attack the meetings before supporters had grown to a size that could repel them. They also ambushed small groups and lone supporters in adjoining streets as they arrived.

Every Sunday from August to October the battle - to become known as 'The Battle of Ridley Road' - raged. Jeffrey Hamm was arrested and vindicated in the courts and the battle finally won by the people of East London who rallied in growing numbers and drove the organised thugs off the streets.

Many Jewish militants were arrested but they had been assured in advance that there was ample finance to pay their fines. Drawn from a wide area of the capital city it was surprising that so many of them in court claimed they were 'just passing' and were 'inflamed by attacks on the Jews' by the speakers.

In fact, apart from whatever the speakers said, it was the local East Ender, imbued, despite years of misery and neglect with his own brand of unashamed British patriotism, that had been inflamed right at the start of the Ridley Road meetings.

But not by Jeffrey Hamm and the British League

'Oswald Mosley...again challenging, appealing, inspiring, and Union Movement was born'

speakers but by the news that on July 31, two British Army sergeants had been captured and hanged by Jewish terrorists in Palestine, their booby-trapped bodies swinging from two eucalyptus trees, and fresh in their minds the Jewish terrorist bombing of Jerusalem's King David's Hotel, HQ of British Army Command the year before when 53 were injured and 42 British soldiers died, and in the intervening months, the news of murders of other British soldiers and policemen.

By September it also became known to British League that some of the 43 Group's 'officers' directing from the crowds perimeter the instigation of the violence, were also in their Bayswater office, recruiting Jews to join the terrorists dedicated to kill more British servicemen in Palestine, an intelligence which when relayed increased the anger of the East Enders, particularly when many of them believed that international Jewry, dedicated since 1933 to the defeat of German National Socialism, were just as guilty as the misjudgement of Adolf Hitler and the weakness of British Government for the holocaust of the just-ended European brother's war, in which many of their sons and brothers died.

The right to be heard fought for and won, within a month, fifty-one organisations, including the British League and Mosley Book Clubs, came together to appeal to Oswald Mosley to return to politics and found a post-war Movement, and at this historic meeting at the Memorial Hall, Farringdon Street, in the City of London and the voice of Mosley, silenced by imprisonment without trial after his last appeal for Peace in Bethnal Green on May Day 1940, was again challenging, appealing, inspiring and Union Movement was born.

With the official launch of the new Movement in February 1948, the British League of Ex-Servicemen and Women was dissolved and Jeffrey Hamm joined the staff at National Headquarters in Vauxhall Bridge Road to handle the accounts. A year later Mosley

considered Jeffrey's ability as a speaker would be well served in the North and he was posted to assist Philip Sutherst, former Prestwich British Union District Leader, then Manchester Union Movement Organiser. He was to stay for three years, his speaking programme extending to many Lancashire and Yorkshire towns.

He was recalled to London in 1952 to organise the running of Euphoric Books, a new publishing house set up by Sir Oswald and Lady Mosley which produced the best-seller Stuka Pilot by Luftwaffe ace Hans-Ulrich Rudel, prefaced by RAF's legless pilot Group-Captain Douglas Bader. Its flagship however was The European, a high quality monthly magazine with distinguished contributors until it ceased in 1959. During this period the Movement was rocked by the sudden death in 1955 of its Secretary Raven Thomson at the age of 54. He has been described by Mosley as an exceptional thinker who at nearly forty 'emerged from the study to become a man of action and one of the finest fighters for our cause we ever knew'. As 'Comrade' has said, his place in the hearts and minds of old comrades, and in the Mosley story has never been filled.

At that time of the Movement's steady growth he was irreplaceable but Jeffrey Hamm, despite his publishing involvement, took over Raven's duties and a year later appointed Secretary. Six years later, the Leader found the need for further changes and Jeffrey was made General Secretary and East London Organiser Keith Gibson brought in to become Mosley's Political Secretary which he later combined with Organising Secretary.

In 1966, O.M., then 70, decided there was much to do and very little time and he announced his detachment from party warfare to write his important biography My Life and to advocate a policy which is 'beyond party' which he saw as a necessity for Britain's survival. For Union Movement he created, with Jeffrey Hamm Secretary, a Mosley Directorate of five to run the Movement, with a direction

for its continuation after his death.

By the 1970s, with many of the traditional ways of minority political movements campaigning, such as street meetings, no longer viable, Jeffrey formed, in 1978, Action Society to compliment Union Movement. It was intended to influence the 'hard centre' of British politics and 'be open to members of all political organisations and none' and would propagate Mosley's concept of a government of national unity pledged to implement his policies on Europe. After Mosley's death in 1980, it developed by the end of the decade into what a national newspaper described as 'a small band of sympathisers' who Jeffrey suggested in an interview were 'no longer fascists but European protectionists in their political and economic outlook.'

Jeffrey Hamm was a fearless speaker and not just the 'mob orator' who 'knew how to manipulate a crowd' as one newspaper who published his obituary claimed. His oratory was probably his outstanding ability, but he was also an able writer and seen on a number of occasions as a man of personal physical courage. As an administrator he sometimes crossed swords with those whose motivation was in the area of political action, or in latter years, alternative views on the way ahead, such as the need for the Mosley Directory which he could not see as a requirement and was therefore never convened to run Union Movement after the Leader's death.

All would understand however, his own chosen epitaph from the words of St. Paul in his autobiography: 'I have fought the fight to the end.....'

And at the end, as the last rites were performed in a small London chapel, there were gathered those who at different ages in the history of Union Movement had shared the fight. For those who were there when it began - the boy in the London Drum Corps and the editors of 'Action' and 'Comrade' - it seemed proper that he who was Jeffrey Hamm left us to a subdued 'All through the night'.

The spirit of the boy from Pontypool was returning home to Wales.

Suburban Blackshirts

I READ Gordon Beckwell's article about Kingston British Union branch with interest. I met John Nickolls, the Assistant District Leader (Sales), shortly before his death in 1976. He and his wife Marie attended all the big BU marches and I enclose a small faded photo of him taken in 1935 selling **Blackshirt** exactly where he said - outside Woolworths in Kingston Market.

However, in one of the sources you list **The Woman Blackshirt** which should have been **The Woman Fascist** which came out fortnightly. I mention this to



save researchers hours of fruitless labour searching for a phantom publication.

William Parsons
Surrey

GORDON BECKWELL writes:

MANY THANKS to Bill Parsons for correcting my error. Since writing the article I have found more information to link BU activity with the Canbury Ward area. Bruce Tomkins lived in Canbury Park Road and John Nickolls in Dagmar Road, and another picture of Nicholls in 'full warpaint' - at the Blackshirt wedding of Kingston's second District A.E. Mason in 1936



'We band of brothers'

Eric Whittleton

THANK YOU for Comrade which I read with nostalgia, tinged with sadness.

Would you please accept my cheque.....in memory of my old friend Eric Whittleton. [Comrade 33]

We ran a pub, called The Bell, together in Stafford Gaol, about half-a-century ago.
D.S. Barke.

OUR younger readers might ponder on the probable age of our contributors after which they may arrive at some realisation of the unique band of brotherhood that was the Blackshirt Movement, a bond spanning age, distance and time, moving old comrades, possibly with the physical infirmities of age, to put pen to paper - to remember.

● Our two from 'down under', McNEIL SLOANE, proud as ever of his Blackshirt uniform, and ARTHUR MASON, seen here under arrest after recapture in a small boat in the Irish Sea following his tunneling escape from Peveril Concentration Camp, Isle of Man, in 1941.

Both were with Mosley and British Union at the start and were members of the renowned defence force, the '1' Squad. They emigrated to Australia together in the early 1950s. [Ed]



McNeil Sloane



Arthur Mason
S. Australia

Danny Gill

YOU do not seem to have a complete record of DANNY GILL in the report of his passing in the February/April issue.

He was a District Leader in Liverpool which was one of the unique organisations in Liverpool which contained Roman Catholics and Orange Men.

Danny had spent six months in Wakefield Prison in the 1930's for assaulting a Red who had assaulted his wife Marie on the street whilst she was selling 'Action'.

In the Court case the Judge sent word to Danny's solicitor that if Danny and Dennis Egan, accused with him, wasted the Judge's time by pleading Not Guilty, he would send them down for 2 years.

Such was British justice that Dennis, a bosom pal of Danny's and out of loyalty to him pleaded Guilty with him and both were sentenced to 6 months.

Danny was interned in my house in Peel Camp, Isle of Man, and although he was a tough character he found he was not able to join Arthur Mason and I in our escape tunneling exercise.

Danny and I were in close touch for many years as were Liverpool and Manchester members.

Geoff Warnes

South Australia

I REMEMBERED Geoff Warnes very well as soon as I saw it in the last 'Comrade'.

When I first was at the Black House NHQ at Chelsea I was in the Transport Section, driving the vans etc. which entailed spending some time in Leeds where as you say, Geoff was in charge of transport.

I wonder if the Australians ever gave a posthumous decoration to the young Australian, Flying Officer Tuff, who bravely gave his life in the futile attempt to save our British Union comrades life.



COMEDIANS CORNER



and a pair of boots

RED BAILEY's confession. Last year, following a Communist allegation, that the boots gratis to East London Blackshirts in the 1930's had originally been in the Quartermaster's Stores of Napoleon's Grand Army in its march on Moscow, prompted our letter writer to complain that he received his free half-crown with his pair of boots, a situation that 'Boots' Bailey promised to rectify - with interest.

But the end is not yet.

Attention 'Boots' Bailey

I am returning the half-crown you sent me (which I note was minted in 1936!) and I hope it will be wisely invested for another 56 years. Or, maybe, some Friend of O.M. may care to bid for it? Sorry I cannot return the boots. I have many agents searching for another pair but I am told there has been a huge population change in the areas of Brick Lane and Bethnal Green and sandals are more in vogue there than boots.

With regard to the cheque to cover inflation I dare not let it get into the hands of my friendly bank manager as he would not continue my overdraft. I return it in the hope that you might think of me if you ever discover some of British Union's treasures buried hurriedly in Victoria Park in 1940. A piece of the gold bullion would be quite acceptable!

Pat O'Donagan Kent

● The secret of the gold bullion was discovered by Churchill's own secret agents and the bullion removed under cover of the heavy air-raid on London on the night of May 10 1941, at the same time that Rudolf Hess was parachuting into Scotland, and the gold conveyed to Churchill's Chartwell at Westerham.

He had previous intelligence of the Hess visit, arranged by a 'Peace' group

Turn to Page 6

Their Blackshirt Commander

RAF 263 Squadron at Warmwell, summer 1943

Sqdn. Leader Warnes had just received the DSO following DFC.



3 GODFATHERS

Nations mediator for Palestine.

Since then, the record of murders, bombings and kidnapping outside its own borders by Israel's terrorist and intelligence arm MOSSAD - of which Shamir is reputed to have had involvement - is without equal, and its repression of the Palestine Arabs almost the genocide which the Jews never stop reminding the world they themselves suffered.

The philosophy of these cold-blooded killers, never brought to justice but indeed, accepted with full diplomatic privileges, has guided the artificial State of Israel ever it was carved-up 40-odd years ago from the lands which had been the home of the Arab majority for 3,000 years, propped-up by by America's six million Jews - twice the population of Israel - and their control over many areas of American finance.

In recent years Israeli agents are believed to have murdered in Paris in 1980, **Yahia El Mashad**, the Egyptian-born physicist because of his nuclear research for Iraq, and in 1990 the murder in Brussels of **Dr. Gerald Bull**, the Canadian ballistic expert for his Iraqi commercial connections. For years they have refused to comply with the United Nations Resolution to withdraw from the Occupied Territories as well as entry to UN Observers although their Arab neighbour Iraq, for the lesser crime of invading Kuwait were bombed and blasted to submission by American dominated military might for their refusal to comply with a similar UN Resolution.

The Israeli establishment, like its Irgun, Stern, and Mossad terrorists, not only gets away with murder but one senses that behind its cold-eyed stone-faced spokesmen is a total lack of tolerance, and compassion on the atrocities against any non-Jews they regard as their enemies - which means any who question or criticise - suitably explained in the words of Jewish American author and film-script writer **Ben Hecht** in the late 1940's as, approximately: 'Every time a British soldier is

IN MEMORIAM

BAINES, Derek Talbot: early Blackshirt: BUF '1' Squad	Summer 1961
BENNETT, Charles: former Mayor Bethnal Green; Chairman Bethnal Green N/East Bethnal Green British Union	June 1939
BOWIE, Alexander: early Blackshirt with wife Margaret nee Collins: Blackshirt and Action cartoonist: his 1930's <i>Bowie's Annual</i> now a collector's item	25 May 1985
BOWMAN, William James: Plating, Manchester British Union	July 1939
BROWN, Charles: British Union D/L Wavertree, Liverpool: 18b British Political Prisoner: Union Movement Organiser, Salford	June 1962
BROWNING, Kenneth Thomas: Exeter British Union: kin and friend of D/L Jack Forward: RAF World War II	5 June 1969
BROWNING, Guy: Ealing British Union: one of five Blackshirt brothers: 18b British Political Prisoner when brother Clement in German concentration camp where he died	2 August 1965
BROWNING, Maurice: Ealing British Union, brother of Guy, Clement and two other Blackshirt brothers.	11 July 1970
CAMPBELL, J.H.: Manchester British Union & Union Movement	May 1952
CHAMBERLAIN, John: Limehouse British Union: Blackshirt family: Gunner Egypt, Italy, Palestine World War 2	June 1981
CLARKE, Bill: Union Movement Treasurer N/W London Br. 1970/74	June 1989
CLARKE, Pat: Grantham Branch British Union	June 1937
COLE, Captain T.E.: Burgess Hill British Union	May 1939
CRABTREE, Bill: Bury Lanes British Union & Union Movement	July 1975
DONOVAN, Capt. B.D.E.: British Union Asst. D/Gen. 1940: 18b British Political Prisoner: married to Womens Drum Corps Drum Major Heather Bond: World War 2 at 16: In Arabia with Lawrence: 129th Baluchis D.C.O Third Afghan War	26 July 1985
DOWDY, John: Brit. Union Parl. Candidate Evesham: National Farmers Union 18b British Political Prisoner: Union Movement	July 1978
GARNETT, John: policeman, teacher and early Blackshirt: National Org. Midlands & E/Anglia: Parl. Cand. Harwich: later married to Margaret Monk, O.M.'s secretary at NIHQ: at 83	24 May 1991
GOUGH, Joseph 'Bowie': Birmingham Br. Union Drum Corps: 18b British Political Prisoner after Army Dunkirk evacuation	July 1963
GOUGH, Victor: son of 'Bowie': 18b British Political Prisoner: then RAF	27 June 1975
HANCOCK, Alan: Croydon Br. Union: Union Movement: Sussex printer	July 1989
HUDSON, Cmdr. C.E. OBE RD RNR Rtd: Br. Union D/L Bognor: 18b British Political Prisoner: Camp Leader Huyton Concentration Camp	June 1948
LEE, Henry: Barnsley British Union: victim of Wharmcliffe Woodmoor Colliery disaster	July 1936
LOCKE, Ida: Norwich British Union	May 1937
MART, Dr. W.T.D., DM LACS BSc: Sheffield British Union	19 May 1940
McKECHNIE, I.E. Col: British Union D/L Hastings	13 May 1940
MITFORD, Unity Valkyrie: sister of Lady Mosley	28 May 1948
MOSLEY, Mad Lady: The Leader's mother: Head of Womens BUF early days	20 June 1948
NICHOLLS, Tommy: Sth. London British Union	June 1981
PORTER, Wally: Dorset Br. Union: 18b British Political Prisoner: Union Movement	May 1981
POWELL, Vice-Admiral G.B. OBE RN: British Union D/Ldr and Parl. Cand. Portsmouth	27 May 1952
PUDNEY, Frederick: Mosley supporter Laour Party, British Union & Union and Union Movement	May 1965
REDESDALE, Lady: Mother of Lady Mosley	May 1963
ROBERTSON, Kenneth: Shoreditch British Union	May 1939
SCOTT, Arthur: Notts Br. Union: 18b British Political Prisoner: Union Movement	May 1959
SCOTT, George: Br. Union D/L Richmond, Surrey: 18b British Political Prisoner	28 July 1978
SHEMERDINE, Philip: Br. Union Agent for Middleton and Prestwich By-election 1940: 18b British Political Prisoner: victim of M15's Camp 020 Interrogation Centre, Ham Common: Post-war in Holy Orders	14 July 1987
TAYLOR, Harry: husband of Vicky: Shoreditch British Union	July 1961
TEMPLE COTTON, Rafe: Brit. Union Nat. Inspector, Devon: Parl. Candidate, Exeter: 18b British Political Prisoner	18 June 1985
THOMSON, Palmer: Aylesbury British Union: died in Walton Jail when 18b British Political Prisoner shortly after arrest	June 1940
TRESADEN, George: Early E/London Union Movement supporter, brother of Arthur 'Uncle' Tresaden: at 93	3 June 1989
VERRALL, Stan: Essex British Union speaker: RAF WW2: S/London Union Movement	June 1989
WAINWRIGHT, William: father of H.S. Wainwright: head of Wainwright Brush Factories, Bow, East London: at 87	30 June 1955
WARRETT, MRS: Shoreditch Br. Union: candidate local election	June 1938
WHEELWRIGHT, P.E.: Ladywood, Birmingham Brit. Union	15 June 1936
WHITE, Albert: Early Union Movement after Army WW2: candidate local elections N/W London Branch: In Lancashire	June 1991

killed I make a little holiday in my heart'.

The 43 Group terrorists who in the late 1940s attacked British League and later Union Movement meetings and ambushed lone supporters were not only, as they admitted, tied to Palestine's Jews by blood, race and history, but when given the chance, synonymously with their men of violence.

Those who stood in Ridley Road and other battles against Britain's own Jew-

ish terrorists were also moved by blood, race and history, and their compatriots murders but unlike their politicians who turned and ran in Palestine, they fought back and outstayed them.

Untouched by their political cowardice and decadence, and of common British stock, their past gave them little choice.

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Old Comrades



1 bloody Blackshirt

journey and the lone airman then smartly taken away to MI5's nearby Broadway Buildings.

What happened next according to Stan Verrall, and one can only surmise an internal signal from the Victoria RAF police, is that a high-ranking RAF officer, believed to be an Air Vice-Marshall, came 'storming' in to MI5's lair, with 'I hear you have one of my men - what are you doing with him?' Which seemed to stop in its tracks whatever was going to be the 'doing' and in no time the aircraftman had been released and again on his way.

But first, Verrall, concerned about arriving late at his RAF station intimated this to the 'top brass' who immediately on an aged telephone rang the station commander with whom he was on 'first name terms', the conversation audible to prisoner.

For the perfect ending to our story, without further comment, the names, long forgotten, have been 'dubbed' by the editor:

'Bill, this is George. I have one of your bloody Blackshirts here' and the response, the groan imagined, 'No - not another'!

5 Half a crown and a pair of boots

which included close colleagues. It appeared a deal might be done on the Hess peace proposals which did not include his continuation as Prime Minister, so plans had been laid for his flight, with the gold, to the United States.

Someone blundered and Hess got 50 years solitary Churchill the gold. It is doubtful if any now remains as it is believed to have been used for settling his off-licence account. [Ed]

DONATIONS

THE Cheques Act 1992 is now in operation. Would readers ensure that all Cheques and Money Orders for donations or other purposes, unless for special projects designated otherwise, be made payable only to

F.O.M

COMRADE

Newsletter of Friends of O.M.

No.35 AUGUST-OCTOBER 1992

'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'



1st October 1932

MOSLEY'S BLACKSHIRTS

Born to sacrifice all
for Britain's sake

Page 4

'Throughout the 1930's Mosley had campaigned for peace using the

BRITAIN

slogan "MIND BRITAIN'S
BUSINESS"...the proper
place to defend the
frontiers of British
Empire was those
frontiers'

The Country That Had It All - and Threw It All Away

by **PETER
MARCY**

AT THE BEGINNING of the Twentieth Century Britain was the most powerful nation on earth.

The country in which the Industrial Revolution had begun had become the Workshop of the World. British merchant ships carried the products of British industry to the four corners of the earth. British engineers built roads and railways from China to Peru. On a small uninhabited island off the coast of Malaysia the East India Company created the great port and base of Singapore from jungle and swamp. Hong Kong, ceded to Britain in 1841 became a Crown Colony and the outlet through which a third of all China's exports passed. Gunboats of the Royal Navy, operating from Hong Kong, Singapore and other Far Eastern ports cleared the seas of pirates, a centuries-old scourge which, since decolonisation has reappeared in a far more menacing form.

The Man Who Could Have Saved It



'We know now that
once that vital spark
dies out of nations
and of races then
it is the end,
not for a little,

The inhabitants of more
than 60 Colonies who
prior to British rule had
known only tribal war-
fare, bloody massacres -
often at the hands of
their own chiefs - famine

'Lift high the head
of England. Lift
strong the voice of
Empire. Let us to
Europe and the world
proclaim that the
heart of this great
people is undaunted
and invincible.

This flag still
challenges the
winds of Destiny.
This flame still
burns.

This glory
shall not die'

Oswald

Mosley: March 1934

and disease, enjoyed for
the first (and last) time
efficient and benevolent
government by the most
devoted and corruption-
free colonial admin-
istrators in all history.
British officials built
roads, railways, ports,
dams, hospitals and clin-
ics: established settled
agricultural communities
and taught the raising
of rubber, coffee, tobacco
and other cash crops;
they fixed tribal bound-
aries; provided schools
and free education;
and created police
forces, replacing the ar-
bitrary judgements of
chiefs with an impartial
judicial system. But
these are small examples
for in 1900 Britain
ruled the vastness of
Canada, Newfoundland, the
West Indies and British
Guiana in the Americas;
Sierra Leone, the Gold
Coast, Nigeria, Egypt and

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

'What though we ourselves
are smitten,
This, our faith can never
die!'

DAY, Kenneth G. age 20 and
BROCKING, George T. age 22:

Blackshirt voluntary air-
gunners RAF 9 Sqn killed
in action September 4
1939, second day of Sec-
ond World War, bombing
German Fleet at Bruns-
bittel, Keil Canal, the
War's First Casualties.
Kenneth Day, buried with
full military honours by
Luftwaffe at Cuxhaven
Town Cemetery was re-
buried in 1945 and now
lies in Becklingen War
Cemetery, Saltau, Germany.
George Brocking was never
found and is remembered
on the Air Force Memorial
at Runnymede with 20,546
other Allied airmen
with no known graves.

BRONING, Clement: Blackshirt
speaker, NFO Admin. Officer
and Parl. Candidate Wood
Green: one of five Ealing
Blackshirt brothers: died
17 August 1942, age 31, in
German concentration camp
with brother GUY in Brit-
ish concentration camp. He
lies in Cracow Cemetery
Poland.

LIME, Pte. W.F. REME reserv-
ist, Norwood Branch Brit-
ish Union: killed in action
Normandy, 27 October
1944: Remembered Services
Panel, Norwood Cemetery.

LUCAN, P/Off. Dennis, DFM: RAF
(VR): 207 and 607 'Dam-
buster' Sqdns: N/East Leeds
British Union: at 21 on 7
October 1944, killed in
action over Kembs Dam:
lies in Durbach Cemetery
Germany.

YEATMAN, St/Sgt F.J.: Glider
Pil. Regt. Army Air Corps:
at 28, killed in action,
Arnhem, 24 September 1944:
lies in Oosterbeek War
Cemetery, Netherlands.

the Sudan, South Africa
and Rhodesia; India,
Burma, the Malay States
and Sarawak; and Austral-
ia, New Zealand and

but for all times. And again and again in the long story of the human race, races have struggled up to nations and nations up to mighty empires and scaled the heights of history and thought they were safe, and lit by the flame of such inspiration, this Movement rises from the very soul of England, to give all, to dare all, that England may live in greatness and in glory.'

Oswald Mosley: April 1935

1 BRITAIN'S SUICIDE

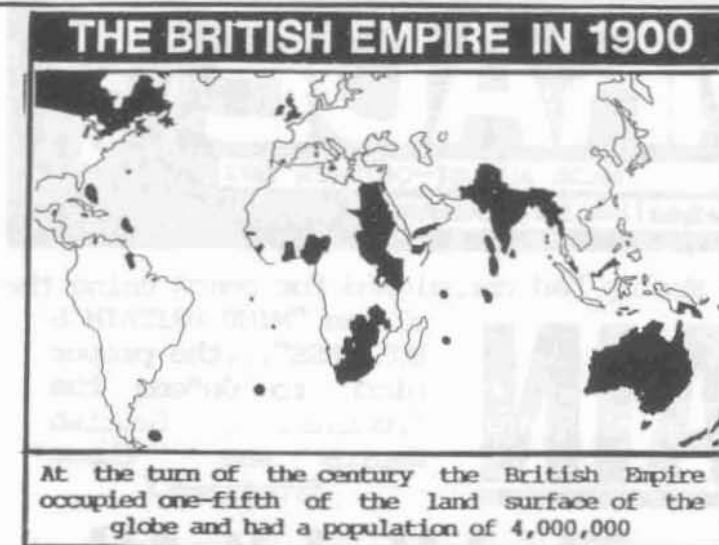
Papua - a fifth of the world's surface and a quarter of it's people.

And the British Navy controlled the world's oceans - though it would do so for only twenty more years.

At the end of the First World War, despite the grievous loss of life, British military, air and naval power was greater than ever. Britain had the strongest and best-equipped army in the field, together with the world's largest Air Force - 22,647 aeroplanes and 103 airships manned by 290,000 officers and other ranks, while 415,000 officers and ratings served in the Royal Navy. For many years both Liberal and Conservative Governments had supported the principle that the Royal Navy should be maintained at a strength equal to any two potential enemies.

In August 1921, the United States invited Britain, France, Italy and Japan to a conference to discuss naval limitations. The US proposed a limitation on navies to a strength of 525,000 tons for Britain, and the USA; 315,000 for Japan; and 175,000 each for France and Italy - plus a 10-year moratorium on battleship construction. The ratio of US, British and Japanese strength was to be 5:5:3. The Americans proposed this ratio for all warships but eventually it was limited to capital ships. Under American pressure at this conference Britain dissolved the 20-year-old Anglo-Japanese Alliance - despite the fact that Japan had fought on the Allied side: her warships had conveyed British forces from the Pacific to Europe, had taken part in military operations in the Pacific and had even sunk German U-boats in the Mediterranean.

At this Naval Conference held in Washington, D.C. between November 1921 and February 1922, A.J. Balfour, Leader of the British Delegation, agreed to abandon Britain's entire capital ship building programme. The Royal Navy, which in 1914 had possessed 33 Dreadnought battleships, 9 Dreadnought battle cruis-



At the turn of the century the British Empire occupied one-fifth of the land surface of the globe and had a population of 4,000,000

ers, 40 other battleships, 87 light cruisers, 31 large cruisers and 224 destroyers was reduced by this Treaty to 22 battleships and 4 battle cruisers available to protect its entire Empire.

This marked the beginning of the British Empire's end, for in agreeing to parity in capital ships with the USA Britain had effectively ceased to rule the waves.

With the advent to power of Atlee's Labour Government in 1945 at the end of the most destructive war in history there began the deliberate process of Imperial dismantlement that has led to the present farcical "Commonwealth". The wise maxim "Trade Follows the Flag" was forgotten with the result that now at the end of the Twentieth Century Britain has been reduced to a powerless semi-bankrupt, unimportant appendage of a Europe dominated by a rich, powerful

and once more united Germany.

How bitter Britain's humiliation must be for those Vansittarts and Riddleys, who, ignoring geopolitical realities, thought that such an outcome could be prevented by the sacrifice in two Great Wars of millions of British lives!

No inevitable disaster has produced Britain's present unenviable situation. Responsibility lies squarely with those politicians who ruled Britain throughout the Twentieth Century. From Balfour to Churchill they were obsessed with maintaining the European Balance of Power.

The policy they should have pursued would have been one of Imperial Isolationism, for as the conflicts of this century have demonstrated only too painfully, a political and military balance between two opposing groups of Great Powers simply aggra-

vates suspicions and leads inexorably to war.

On the other side of the Atlantic the policy of Isolationism advocated in Jefferson's 1801 Declaration that America sought "peace, commerce and honest friendship with all nations - entangling alliances with none" had served America well for almost the whole of the Nineteenth Century. But Britain's rulers had learned nothing from this - though even Gladstone, that great advocate of intervention in other countries' disputes had had the good sense to maintain neutrality during the Franco-Prussian War.

Nor had they learned the Great Lesson of the late Nineteenth Century's conflicts that "War had become too immensely destructive for national objectives to be achieved by resorting to it."

The short Franco-German War of 1870-1 had resulted in enormous casualties because by then weapons were capable of firing as many as 444 rounds per minute. In one engagement - the Battle of Sedan - 6,000 Germans and more than 20,000 Frenchmen died under the ferocious firepower of German artillery pieces and French machine-guns. In seven months the Germans lost 133,000 men out of a million, and the French 238,000 out of 700,000. There were War Cemeteries in France where the dead of 1870 occupy more space than those of 1914-18 and 1939-1945.

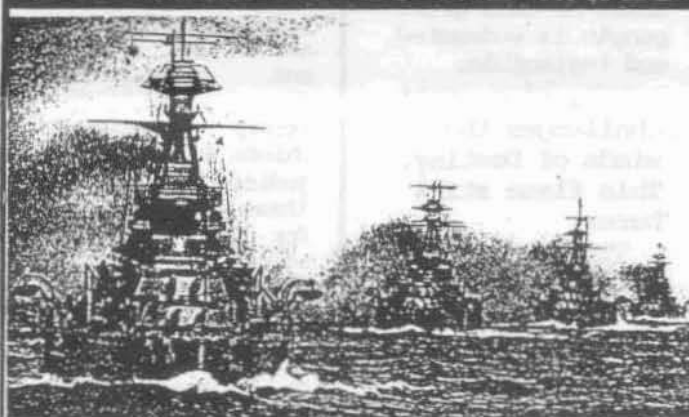
It was Britain's very own bogeyman of the inter-war years ("The very mention of his name has been enough to provoke apoplectic rage, and still is...." - Hugh David's comment in his 1991 book, *Heroes, Mavericks and Bounders*) - who repeatedly stressed the dangers in the Balance of Power policy.

In 1929 Oswald Mosley told the electors of Harrow:

"There must be no entangling alliances which inevitably evoke opposition combinations and a return to the balance of power with its division of Europe into armed camps awaiting their opportunity to attack."

Throughout the 1930s Mosley had campaigned for peace using the slogan

'BRITANNIA RULES THE WAVES'



IN LINE AHEAD battleships Royal Oak, Revolution, Revenge and Ramillies mounting eight 15-in. guns. Completed in 1915 they were to form the second division of the first battle squadron of the Atlantic Fleet. At the end of World War I, Britain's naval, air and military power was greater than ever.

The Development of the Ideas and Policy of the British Union of Fascists, 1932-40:1. by Stephen Cullen

Until the appearance of Neill Nugent's article on the ideas of the British Union of Fascists (BUF) in 1977,¹ this aspect of British fascism had been largely ignored. Previous work on the BUF concentrated mainly upon questions related to the character of Sir Oswald Mosley, the movement's leader and prime mover, and the novel features of the BUF's organization and campaigns, together with such aspects as anti-semitism and violence. Indeed, recent work on the topic has returned to questions of organization and historical narrative; for example, Gerry Webber's interesting contribution to the question of BUF membership,² and J.D. Brewer's study of the BUF in the West Midlands.³ However, to date, Nugent's article remains the main commentary on the ideological orientation of Britain's primary fascist movement.

Nugent's article was the first attempt to provide a clearer explanation of the BUF's ideas than that contained in the standard works on the movement.⁴ In addition, he provided a useful framework within which to analyze the differing elements in the hierarchy of BUF ideas and policy. Nugent divided the various elements of BUF thought into five sections, namely: the speeches and writings of Mosley, the contributions of the 'inner core' of the BUF's hierarchy, the periodic publications of the movement, the speeches and writings of the lesser leaders of the movement, and, finally, all other pronouncements. It is the first two 'authoritative' categories that Nugent concentrated on in his article. It seems that this five-part categorization of BUF ideas is essentially a correct interpretation of the importance of the various elements of thought within the BUF, bearing in mind that it was a strictly hierarchical movement, based upon the principles of leadership, and led by the charismatic figure of Mosley. However, the further content of the article merely provides a stepping-off point for further discussion.

Nugent highlights the central importance of three themes: first, Mosley's, and hence the movement's, interpretation of the nature of the capitalist crisis, along with the proposed solution provided by the Corporate State and 'fascist discipline'; second, anti-semitism and third, foreign policy. It is pointed out that whereas Benewick had previously highlighted these features,⁵ it is perhaps incorrect to argue, as Benewick does, that these three strands of BUF thought mark three distinct phases in the progression of BUF ideas. Instead, Nugent rightly emphasizes the continuity of thought that these three features represent — a continuity of thought that was in part obscured by changing emphasis on each strand of policy at differing times in the movement's history.

Although such an explanation of BUF ideas is, in itself, correct, it is not the whole picture. And, although it is perfectly legitimate to examine these three prominent features of the movement's ideas, it is not sufficient to analyze the BUF's policy and ideas in isolation from the appeal that the movement was trying to make. Rather, it is suggested that the factors so clearly identified by Nugent provide only part of the picture of BUF ideas and policy. In particular, it is possible to connect one of the factors identified by Nugent, namely Mosley's and the BUF's interpretation of the economic and political crisis, and its necessary fascist solution, with three other essential factors in the BUF's appeal and approach to politics that were present from the inception of the movement. This provides an interpretation of the BUF's outlook that is characterized by a greater degree of coherence than hitherto recognized. In addition to Mosley's economic analysis, which, as Nugent shows, formed the underlying central concept of the BUF's approach throughout the period, we can isolate three further factors that were stressed by the movement from 1932 onwards. These factors can be loosely categorized as follows: first, the idea of hyper-patriotism, and unstinting belief in King, Country and Empire; second, the ethos of the ex-servicemen of the Great War, an appeal to, and a belief in, the values that this group were seen to embody. This appeal led in turn to a belief in the formulation of an ex-servicemen's and youth alliance against the 'old gangs' in every sphere of life and politics. Third, the idea that for the economic crisis to be defeated, and for

STEPHEN CULLEN was educated at Edinburgh University where he took an honours degree in Politics and Economic History. In 1984-86 he researched the BUF at Nuffield College, Oxford, the result of which was his M.Litt. thesis entitled *The British Union of Fascists, 1932-1940: Ideology, Membership and Meetings*. After leaving Oxford he taught in public schools in England and Scotland and is currently a tutor for the Open University. He has written a number of articles on the BUF for a variety of academic journals and is now working on a book on the Movement. We publish his article, which will appear over several issues, with his permission as an example of the serious academic studies on British Union history now being undertaken. It was first published in the *Journal of Contemporary History* in 1987. ● ● Letters: page 8

the rejuvenation of British political and social life to be successful, any policy (corporate or otherwise) needed the involvement of the 'modern movement', which was, by definition, fascist. These core beliefs of the BUF together formed a distinct ideological package. This ideological package was for members of the BUF a complete set of interlinked beliefs and concomitant policies that provided the essentials of a particular fascist outlook on politics and life as a whole. This outlook was flexible in two senses. Firstly, the differing elements tended to be stressed in relation to the others at differing times in the movement's history; however, changing emphases in ideas and policies were never to the complete detriment of other core ideas within the fascist belief-system. Secondly, this initial four-part package proved capable of amendment and development to a limited extent. For instance, it can be argued that all the elements that were present at the outset contributed to, or at least facilitated, the adoption of anti-semitism as a belief and policy. Similarly, the nature of the ex-servicemen's outlook (or, at least, of those who became members of the BUF), allied to the economic solutions proposed by the movement, led to the adoption of a more and more clear anti-war stance by the BUF. Whereas there were traces of both these policies, anti-semitism and anti-war, in the BUF from the beginning, these two features were greatly aided to their later prominence in the BUF's ideological standpoint by the nature of the original four-part package that characterized the core of BUF belief in 1932.

In this review of BUF ideas and policies, it is intended to highlight the core beliefs of the BUF in its initial stages, to show the way in which these beliefs formed a cohesive package that went to form the outlook of fascists in the BUF, and to illustrate how this ideological package assisted later developments in the BUF's ideas and policies. In addition, some tentative conclusions will be made concerning shifts in emphasis in some of the BUF's policies that reflected the growing influence of national socialist thought on the movement. Incidental note will also be made concerning contrasts and affinities between the ideas of the BUF and those of continental fascist movements. The contribution of Mosley will be examined, although this is perhaps familiar territory as far as the history of the BUF is concerned. Nonetheless, a brief re-statement of Mosley's economic arguments is necessary in order to provide a clear basis for the analysis of the other core beliefs of the movement.

Notes

1. Neill Nugent, 'The Ideas of the British Union of Fascists', *The British Right*, Neill Nugent & Roger King (Farnborough 1977).
2. G.C. Webber, 'Patterns of Membership and Support for the BUF', *Journal of Contemporary History*, 19, 4 (October 1984).
3. J.D. Brewer, *Mosley's Men. The BUF in the West Midlands* (Aldershot 1984).
4. Colin Cross, *The Fascists in Britain* (London 1961) and R.J. Benewick, *Political Violence and Public Order* (London 1969).
5. Benewick, *ibid.*, 132-40.

(to be continued)



MOSLEY!

Leader of thousands!
Hope of our manhood, we
proudly hail thee!
Raise we this song of
allegiance,
For we are sworn and we
shall not fail thee.
Lead us! We fearlessly
follow
To conquest and freedom
— or else to death!



Three generations who
'fearlessly followed'

From
coast to coast
throughout the Motherland,
Rings out this summons to the chosen band.
In street, in meadow and alley and lane resounds
The tramp of our insurgent legions.

MOSLEY'S BLACKSHIRTS

Born to sacrifice all for Britain's sake

'WE ASK all those who join us to march with us in a great and hazardous adventure. We ask them to be prepared to sacrifice all, but to do so for no small or unworthy ends. We ask them to dedicate their lives to building in this country a movement of the modern age, which by its British expression shall transcend, as often before in our history, every precursor of the Continent in conception and in constructive achievement.

We ask them to rewrite the greatest pages of British history by finding the spirit of their age its highest mission in these islands. Neither to our friends nor to the country do we make any promises; not without struggle and ordeal will be the future be won. Those who march with us will certainly face abuse, misunderstanding, bitter animosity, and possibly the ferocity of struggle and of danger.

In return we can only offer to them the deep belief that they are fighting that a great land may live!

Moscow controlled Communist Party's Red Flag, areas which for years those so-called defenders of free speech and British traditions, the Conservative Party sold out to the mobs by giving up the attempt to hold open public meetings.

Within weeks, although yet without a propaganda paper, the 'Blackshirts' as they became known, a name which they were proud to adopt, were no longer a 'nine-days wonder' and by

its first anniversary, the BUF's paper The Blackshirt reported it had made the most rapid progress any new movement had ever made in Britain, and made lacking 'money and every material resource' and 'an expenditure so small that the achievement was beyond the comprehension of the old parties'.

The Movement had been built 'from nothing, with our bare hands. Not money, but human flesh and blood and the undaunted spirit

Proudly we mass for the
struggle,
The ranks of Reaction
are swept before us!
Mosley leads on to the
combat —
Lift up your hearts in
triumphal chorus!
Only through our
Revolution
Comes the revival of
Britain at last —
HAIL!;



'Leader of thousands'

of our young manhood..... Blessed has been the poverty and the struggle of our early days, for our foundations rest upon the solid rock of sacrifice. Those who joined us came to give and not to take, for we had nothing to give them. The adventurers who float in and out of new movements could find no rewards...for they did not exist. Only those inspired by a passionate enthusiasm for an epic cause remained with us to build the strength of the present day, because we had nothing to offer to anyone but the call to sacrifice.

Such men as these have built this movement in challenge to all material things. Against us were arrayed the whole power of the Press, the strength of the old Party machines and the weight of the money-bags; we have smashed through them all.

We have brought to Britain, it continued, 'some-

WITH THESE inspiring words, OSWALD MOSLEY concluded his book, The Greater Britain, published on October 1st, 1932, the day that he and a handful of men met in a small room near the House of Commons to found the British Union of Fascists.

From the start the new movement faced the violence of the Red and Socialist mobs attempting to wreck its meetings and drive it off the streets into political oblivion, which, to a large extent they had done to Mosley's short-lived New Party that was organised on traditional lines after he had left the Labour Party and was the precursor of the new BUF.

Mosley realised from that experience that if his voice and policies of the new movement were to be heard its meetings would have to be physically defended and his disciplined black-shirted active members fought back. They not only withstood the most savage assaults, frequently from a variety of weapons, but took his message and the Union Jack into large areas of the country where for years it had been banished in favour of the



'heart and core
of the Movement'

thing more than a new economic plan and a new conception of Government: we have brought to Britain a new spirit of manhood and of national revival. Our grim and determined ranks of ex-servicemen, a hundred times betrayed, have joined hands with the new youth which is dedicated to make an end of folly and of decadence. Together they have brought back the soul to the land for which our friends and companions died.'

1933-34 was a year of rapid expansion despite large-scale organised Red violence to crush it. "The Blackshirts have carried on a long 'trench-warfare', the full story of which may one day be told in all the heroism of its unrecorded incidents" wrote James Drennan in his *BUF: Oswald Mosley and British Fascism* in 1934. "It is the unknown Blackshirt" he continued, "giving his time and his leisure, his brains and his muscle, to the day-to-day struggle, who has in 12 short months succeeded in building up what is already a formidable and independent movement of the manhood of Britain. They are the heart and core of the Movement."

It was also the year of *The Daily Mail's* Hurrah for the Blackshirts which heralded the six-month support of the Rothermere Press, its object to change the BUF into an active wing of the Conservative Party. Lord

Rothermere withdrew his press publicity when Mosley refused to contemplate any such thing, and it has been said, the pressure and blackmail of large Jewish advertisers on the Rothermere newspaper empire. The vast numbers of recruits gained during this period went as quickly as they had arrived and the Movement was healthier for it.

From then onwards Mosley and his supporters were subject to a secret total censorship in the national press, except when Red violence occasionally erupted at large demonstrations, basically for Mosley's unbending opposition to international finance, other vested interests and the sham political party game at Westminster, the union of 'mob and money' as Mosley put it.

This unprecedented media ban on Mosley, admitted after the war by former editor Frank Owen, led early post war writers to believe that in its last years, British Union had 'withered away' whereas it grew in strength to the point that in 1940 a hypocritical Government used its war Emergency powers to close it down on the fraudulent 'suggestion' that its members were potential traitors but in reality because of its influence, and to silence its voice in its perfectly legal opposition to the war.

In 1936, using the Cable Street riot as a pretence, the Government banned 'political uniforms' which they hoped would 'crush Mosley'. The effect was the opposite and perhaps because of for the Movement developed

into more of a mass movement, especially in the East End of London.

But a profound change had also been taking place, realised even by its adherents only in the years that followed as they looked back to those spirited years.

For The British Union of Fascists, later 'National Socialists' had for brevity, later adopted, become *British Union* out of which emerged an ethos of its own, a development not yet understood by contemporary historians.

Arising out of history, national character and temperament there had been from the start much difference between the BUF and Italian Fascism and German National Socialism and as British Union developed there emerged a philosophy and gut feeling which probably had its source in England's past, and had little to do with the 'Fascist' revolt against the old corrupt democratic systems that was then sweeping Europe.

The philosophy of British Union cannot adequately be described. For its members its meaning was within its title and was total. A complete unity of past, present and future; of young and old; labourer and artisan, plebeian and aristocrat, men and women, man with nature, and above all a real and true union of the British people that would make all things possible.

The young Mosleyite of the late 1930's could no longer wear the black shirt but the spirit of the early days was ever present. He took his stance, planted his

flag and announce to the world: 'This is my belief and here I stand. I hope you will join me - but if you wish to fight me - so be it'. He loved life but had no illusions about the sacrifice that might lie ahead. To have fought for his cause, to have loved, to have lived greatly, even for a short time, his life would not have been vain.

But in the daily struggle there was little time for Mosley's men to go far with analysis of their own life-force as they threw themselves totally into heading off the coming European tragedy, which they clearly saw, the aftermath for Britain which is described elsewhere in this issue.

They also knew whether or not a war would be its ally, that their greatest struggle and sacrifice would be in their date with Destiny, that Spenglerian spiritual descent from the highest peak of Western culture into barbarism. Only Mosley and his men clearly understood the great thinker's prophesy of things to come, and they alone deliberately accepted all the inevitable sacrifice in their challenge to 'the winds of Destiny'.

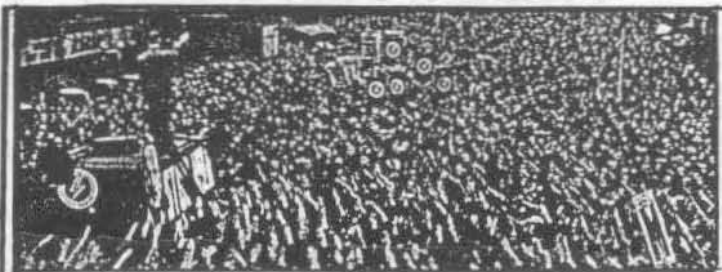
So British Union marched on to its last fight and its members ultimate sacrifice, incarcerated in concentration camp and death in battle on the war that for Britain's future they had given their all to prevent.

On this 60th anniversary of the birth of British Union, with the spirits of those with whom we few that are left marched, bathing the air around us, let us end with the concluding words of that First Anniversary *Blackshirt*.

"For a moment let us lay aside our strife to clasp hands, and to whisper to each other those immortal lines born of England which bring to us the only consolation that we have ever desired or will ever seek:

'But we in it shall be remembered,

We few, we happy few,
we band of brothers'



Had British Union 'withered away'? Mosley speaks to police estimated 40,000 at Dalston on MAY DAY 20,000 Blackshirts marched there said local paper

2 BRITAIN'S SUICIDE

"Mind Britain's Business" and had argued consistently that the proper place to defend the frontiers of the British Empire was those frontiers.

In his autobiography published in 1968 Mosley wrote:

"The League of Nations,

which in my youth I had so eagerly supported as a new instrument of world peace, had failed...and by this time had been turned into an instrument of the balance of power which from historic experience I had regarded as an inevitable prelude to war. The balance of power had always brought war, and now it had returned with the Axis

powers in one scale and the League powers in the other...."

Other peoples and nations also suffered great destruction and loss of life during the wars of the Twentieth Century but have nevertheless retained their vitality and special qualities and characteristics.

But it seems that for democratic Britain - where a citizen's rights are considered to be far more important than his duties - it has all been too much: the spirit, the homogeneity and the will to great achievement have vanished - replaced by the despicable and degenerate Pop and Punk 'Culture' of its Permissive Society.

'FIRST SQUADRON TO DRAW BLOOD'

ed by 9 German Fighters - one claimed shot down by F/O Leech. German merchant ship successfully bombed and set on fire by Sq/Ldr Lamb. No.4 Section encountered heavy A/A fire but succeeded in bombing a Battleship lying in harbour. No.2 and No.3 of No.1 Section did not return to base and were reported missing. First Squadron to draw blood.

RAF No.9 Squadron Operations Report: September 4 1939

All Aircraft reached objective. No.1 Section attacked

EVER SINCE the 1986 fledgling COMRADE 3 revealed the poignant story of the deaths of young Mosley Men BROCKING and DAY, the last war's first casualties, there has been constant demand for copies. So we feel it appropriate on this anniversary of their deaths, and the 60th Anniversary of British Union from which they sprung, to reprint it, with minor amendment, as it was published.

THEIRS THE GREATER GLORY MOSLEY MEN THE FIRST CASUALTIES — 'AND THEY CALLED THEM TRAITORS'

ON THIS forty-seventh anniversary of the start of the last War, we throw the lie of the century - that MOSLEY and his supporters were potential traitors and would have betrayed their country given chance - back in the faces of those who still wish to keep covered the real truth of the Blackshirt sacrifice in the service of their country. We reveal, that even before the politicians of the day had clucked their pious, hypocritical way through a days debate following the declaration of war, two young members of BRITISH UNION lay dead, killed in action in the war they and their comrades had fought tooth and nail to prevent.

The FIRST official casualty of the War, a Mosley Blackshirt, followed by another on the same list and in the same action. AND THEY CALLED THEM TRAITORS!

Royal Air Force ground crew, acting volunteer air-gunners for the day, 20-yr old AC2 KENNETH DAY, and 22-yr old AC2 GEORGE BROCKING, died together when their Wellington LA275 was blown out of the sky during a bombing raid of 6 No.9 Squadron Wellingtons from Honington, Suffolk, on German battleships at BRUNSBUETEL at the mouth of the KEIL Canal on the second day of the War.

The body of young Ken Day was picked up 10 days later by a cargo steamer between Elbe Lightships 1 and 11 and buried two days later with full military honours at Cuxhaven Cemetery. The body of his young friend George Brocking was never found and his name is inscribed on the Air Force Memorial at Runnymede, just one of the 20,547 World War 2 air-men with no known graves.

Two Wellingtons were lost in the operation - one by A/A fire, the other shot down by a German fighter-pilot believed to be Pilot Sergeant Alfred Held in a BF109 operating from 11/J077, Nordholz, in what was claimed as the first Luftwaffe victory in the War against the RAF.



Londoner George Brocking and Ken Day from Essex, were, because of their RAF service, non-active members of British Union, but associated freely with Suffolk members. One old Blackshirt remembers them as 'courageous and reliable members' and Brocking's former District Leader, an intimate friend, described him as 'a grand and splendid lad, fond of fun, with an ever ready smile; yet his frequent discussions on the problems of the time, and the British Union remedy for them, revealed an intelligence far beyond the average.' Ken Day, happy-go-lucky, had volunteered for and been accepted by the RAF's Advanced Air Striking Force for operations in France and Germany.

They would have died as they lived; with a smile on their lips, conscious of the odds against them, but fighting to the end - an outlook on life that as Mosley's men they would have felt and understood.

These two young men were the first of the many members of British Union whose bones - even those who had suffered

previous unjust internment - lie scattered over three continents. Those of us who came back searched in vain for those familiar laughing loveable young faces who had marched with Mosley in the great marches before the War, now know that this hope of reunion was never possible.

They had fought to prevent the War, believing it not be in the real interests of the British People. Their whole being was to build the Britain of their dreams, and they could see that even in 'victory', a Britain relegated to a small island in the Northern seas, and a weakened and divided Europe subservient to the only victors and new colossi - the United States and Soviet Russia. They fortunately did not live to see the land they loved descending into the state of a banana republic, but who now can say they were wrong?

In the age old tradition of the British, they did not however 'choose to live and shame the land from which we sprung', and while many brave young men died believing they were fighting in a just cause, it is not to slight their memory that we say, that for British Union's dead, forced by their patriotism to fight and die for an unworthy end, **Theirs was a Greater Glory.**

For Brocking and Day, their early death will remain an example of the honour and purpose of those who followed Mosley. A symbol for future generations to seize and reveal for posterity the further truths of the Mosley story.

To those politicians of today, who would still go along with the closed minds of their lying predecessors; to the contemporary establishment baked in progressive liberal thought; to the Fleet Street hacks who would still decry our story of Brocking and Day and our Blackshirt dead; in fact, to all who the old values of honour, duty and patriotism are anathema we say, with apologies to the Great War's soldier-poet Wilfred Owen for some liberty with his "Greater Love"....

Lie, smear, defame, you may still defame. For you may touch them not.

THE TIMES: 20 September 1939
The first casualty list of the war was issued last night, when the Air Ministry announced the following casualties in the Royal Air Force on various dates:

MISSING (BELIEVED KILLED)
(1) 549741 Aircraftman 2nd Class E.G. Day
MISSING (BELIEVED PRISONER OF WAR)
(2) 561012 Sergeant O.F. Booth
(3) 361876 Pilot Officer L.H. Richards
(4) 548555 Aircraftman 2nd Class L.J. Slattery
MISSING
(5) 31423 Flight Lieutenant W.F. Barton
(6) 546065 Aircraftman 1st Class G.T. Brocking
(7) 531493 Leading Aircraftman H. Dore
(8) 36138 Flying Officer R.L. Eden
(9) 537187 Aircraftman 1st Class R. Evans
(10) 565602 Sergeant D.E. Jarvis
(11) 546679 Aircraftman 1st Class E.W. Lyon
(12) 580695 Sergeant A.S. Prince
(13) 524808 Leading Aircraftman J. Quilter
(14) 519859 Corporal J.L. Rickards
(15) 39340 Flying Officer J.P. Ross
(16) 552231 Aircraftman 1st Class G. Sheffield
(17) 550202 Acting Sergeant R.G. Walton

MOSLEY'S MESSAGE

Before war began, in our struggle for peace, we thought of ourselves as peaceful men, but now we are at war, and we are no longer peaceful men. We are now at war, and we are no longer peaceful men. We are now at war, and we are no longer peaceful men.

We are now at war, and we are no longer peaceful men. We are now at war, and we are no longer peaceful men. We are now at war, and we are no longer peaceful men.

We are now at war, and we are no longer peaceful men. We are now at war, and we are no longer peaceful men. We are now at war, and we are no longer peaceful men.

We are now at war, and we are no longer peaceful men. We are now at war, and we are no longer peaceful men. We are now at war, and we are no longer peaceful men.

We are now at war, and we are no longer peaceful men. We are now at war, and we are no longer peaceful men. We are now at war, and we are no longer peaceful men.

September 4, 1939

1939

"Little is known of the Wellington raid on ships at Brunsbüttel"

The Bomber Command War Diaries, 1985:
Martin Middlebrook and Chris Everitt



THE DAY THEY DIED

"TO OUR MEMBERS my message is plain and clear. Our country is involved in war. Therefore I ask you to do nothing to injure our country or to help any other power. Our members should do what the law requires of them, and if they are members of any of the Forces or Services of the Crown, they should obey their orders, and, in every particular, obey the rules of their Service."

It is doubtful if British Union members George Brooking and Kenneth Day had seen Mosley's Message by the time they had hauled themselves into No 9 Squadron's Wellington L4275 just before 4 o'clock in the afternoon of September 4 1939 at their Honington, Suffolk, RAF Station.

'He is dead who will not fight'

But they would have known, as would all British Union men already in the Services, that the Declaration of War had placed Britain in immediate danger, and the honour of Mosley and British Union dictated that there was no other path to choose.

They had been standing by for 48 hours in accordance with 3 Group Operating Instructions. Time to consider their short past. Time to debate the madness and stupidity of the politicians in leading the sons of the First War generation into a European brother's war in which not one British interest was at stake. And time to bask in the glow of the memory of the comradeship of British Union as they waited the call they knew would come.

'Be swift and keen as they'

For Brooking and Day, both Aircraftmen 2nd Class and normally on ground crew duties, had volunteered for flying duties as air-gunners, to be called at short notice, and a 5-week course qualified them to wear a metal bullet-shaped badge on the arm of their uniform as a description of air crew. Soon was to be the moment of truth as for the first time, in their lonely fixed single-gun turrets of the Wellington MkIA they faced the reality of fighter attack - an experience which in their short training had been considered not possible to simulate.

At last, the atmosphere of a peace-time exercise is broken by a succession of terse instructions and in just over an hour after the first operating signal on that afternoon of the second day of the Second War, 6 Wellingtons in 2 flights of 3 roared off the Suffolk base to bomb two battleships, believed to be the Scharnhorst and Gneisenau, at low altitude at Brunsbüttel at the mouth of the Keil Canal.

And as the Pegasus XVIII engines vibrated over the Norfolk countryside in the slow climb for altitude, superstitious crew members might have given thought to the Squadron motto: "PER NOCTEM VALAMUS" - "Throughout The Night We Fly", and as they gave what was for some the last look at the land that bore them, they might have pondered its relationship to the bombing of a heavily-armed German fleet at low altitude in daylight.

The Wellington's dived on and suddenly there was land. Navigation had been good and there was the Elbe and the German Fleet.

By JOHN CHRISTIAN

'If this be the last song you sing'

First in flying at 6,000 feet, Flight Lieutenant I.P. Grant led his B Flight vic of 3 through heavy A/A fire from several cruisers, a battleship, and two shore batteries, dropping their bombs on a battleship at the same time. They were immediately forced to pull into cloud without seeing the results owing to the heavy concentration of fire, an action which brought them safely home to base.

'When the burning moment breaks'

Brooking and Day's A Flight vic of 3, led by Squadron Leader L.S. Lamb were less fortunate. Running in some twenty minutes later they were immediately attacked by 9 Messerschmitt 109 fighters scrambled out of the Luftwaffe Nordholz base, forcing Squadron Leader Lamb to jettison his bombs, and by accident, straddling a German merchantman, enabling a quick climb to cloud safety and home to base.

'In the air Death moans and sings'

For Wellington L4268 and Brooking and Day's L4275, there was no cloud cover. Reports from German sources suggest that one was brought down by A/A fire and the

"INTO BATTLE"

And Life is Colour and War and Light
And a striving ever more for these;
And he is dead who will not fight.
And who dies fighting hath increase.
The kestrel, hovering by day
And the little owls that call by night,
Bid him be swift and keen as they,
As keen of ear, as swift of sight.
The blackbird sings to his brother,
"Brother, brother,
If this be the last song you sing,
Sing well, for you may not sing another,
Brother, sing."

And when the burning moment breaks,
And all things else are out of mind,
And only Joy of Battle takes
Him by the throat and makes him blind,
Through joy and blindness he shall know
Not caring much to know, that still
Nor lead nor steel shall reach him, so
That it be not the Destined Will.
The thundering lines of battle stands,
And in the air Death moans and sings;
But Day shall clasp him with
strong hands

And night shall fold him in soft wings.
Julian Grenfell

other by a fighter.

Also involved in the operation were 6 Wellingtons from 149 Squadron, Mildenhall, only one of which claimed to have bombed the target. An unidentified Wellington dropped two bombs on the town of Esbjerg, Denmark, 100 miles north of Brunsbüttel, killing two people.

At the end of the day, 2 Wellingtons and 10 crew had been lost without a hit on the target. The airgunners in their fixed single turrets were at great disadvantage against attacking fighters and it was to be the last raid that the Mark 1 Wellington was used. Within a few months all 3 Group squadrons had been re-equipped with Mark 1A aircraft with 2 and 4 gun power operating revolving turrets, giving an edge to the defence against attacking fighters.

Four days later Squadron Leader Lamb, pilot of A Flight's sole surviving Wellington was decorated by HM George VI for his part in the raid. Two months later he and four of his crew at Brunsbüttel were killed in a flying accident and were buried at Honington Church with full military honours.

We salute all those young men of the RAF who died on the operation. Some now think that they were unnecessary sacrificed in what was no more than an experiment to test the German defences and the RAF's professional capabilities. To that extent it was successful, in that low-level bombing by Wellingtons was never repeated against such targets.

'And night shall fold him in soft wings'

But George Brooking and Kenneth Day, who were never to learn of the disgraceful treatment of MOSLEY and their BRITISH UNION comrades, will ever hold a special place in our hearts. For in defeat they were victorious, and in death they gave new life. Victory for the spirit of pride in self and country, and of Mosley's purpose... 'Deliberately we willed the birth of a type who was half soldier and half politician, partly a tough warrior... and partly an inspired idealist... This was our dream...'

And they gave new life and new hope for the generations who are to come who will one day yearn for something more in life than the dissatisfying materialism of today. They will begin to feel that there are 'greater things than slothful ease; greater things than safety; more terrible things than death'.

And BROOKING and DAY will have shown the Way.

IN MEMORIAM

- BARRON, David:** British Union; Union Movement speaker.
BEZLAUS, Commander Carlyon, RN: Lecturer Royal Naval College; former MP King's Lynn & Maistone; British Union; "Action" contributor.
BEZLAUS, Richard Reynell 'Dick': British Union Northern Ornaiser & official historian; his 300,000 word "We Marched With Mosley" now at Sheffield University; 188 British Political Prisoner; Union Movement; at 87.
BOE, H: Westminster St. George's British Union; founder member Brit. Union London Cab Trade Group.
BRENDING, Guy: One of 5 Ealing Blackshirt brothers; 188 British Political Prisoner in British concentration camp when brother Clement in German concentration camp where he died in 1942.
CHARLES, D.E.: NHQ Staff, British Union.
CROSS, E.G.: British Union Bristol; drowned attempting rescue small boy; parents posthumously awarded Carnegie Memorial Hero Certificate for his sacrifice.
DE LAESSO, Maj. H.H.A., DSO MC: British Union; 188 British Political Prisoner with Mrs. de Laesso; founder member Norwich & King's Lynn Union Movement.
DOMVILLE, Admiral Sir Barry, KBE CB CMG: former Director Naval Intelligence & President Royal Naval College; founder Anglo-German "Link"; a comrade 188 British Political Prisoner with Lady Domville and son Compton; another son killed in action Crete; author of From Admiral to Cabin Boy.
DOUGRA, Joe: Hackney British Union; Merchant Navy World War 2.
EVANS, E.C. 'Bobby': Uppminster; former Stn. London British Union and Union Movement.
FIELD, Bill: early member Mth. London Union Movement after army World War 2.
HART, E.D.: Research Dept. British Union; edited "Action" briefly when editor arrested until himself detained 188 British Political Prisoner; pioneer of Union Movement.
HOGARTH, Miss Cecilia: sister of George, Br. Union D/Tr, Eves, Suffolk and BU & UM's Patricia.
HOLLINGTON, 'Aunt Maud': East London British Union & Union Movement; at 100.
HUNTER, Miss Grace: Blackshirt daughter of DEO J.P. Hunter Chester-le-Street; funeral attended by Newcastle Central Branch Defence Force; from diphtheria.
JENKS, Jorian: British Union Agricultural Advisor; Parl. Candidate Horsham & Worthing; 188 British Political Prisoner; author of BU's Spring Comes Again; Union Movement Agricultural Council.
LEE, Henry: Barnsley Blackshirt miner killed Wharfedale Woodmoor Colliery Disaster.
MACE, Reg: In Wiltshire; former British Union Asst/District Leader, Epping.
PARFITT, W.J.: age 20; Spelthorne, Yorkshire British Union.
PODMORE, Harold: former Norwood British Union & London District Inspector; in Canada.
ROMANES, Mrs. Martha: at 92, mother of British Union & Union Movement's Jack Rowlands.
STEER, Eric: Mitcham British Union speaker; 188 British Political Prisoner; Union Movement.
TAYLOR, Fay: Top woman racing driver; British Union; 188 British Political Prisoner; Union M/Went.
WARD, Charles: One of Birmingham's first Blackshirts; father of SCD Ward, BU NHQ.
WATTS, C.F. 'Charlie': British Union D/Inspector Westminster St. George's; London Cab Trade Group Organiser; 188 British Political Prisoner, BU Camp Leader at Asot Concentration Camp; victim of M15's notorious Camp 020 Interrogation Centre at Ram, Surrey; Union Movement; one-time barrack-room comrade of Aircraftman Shaw, (Lawrence of Arabia).
WILLIAMSON, Henry: British Union NHQ Branch and Union Movement; author Tarka the Otter, Story of a Norfolk Farm Sun in the Sands, Chronicle of Ancient Sunlight etc. etc.
ANDERSON, W.A.: South Hammersmith Branch; one of British Union's oldest members.
BURROUS, T.H.: Islington British Union.
CALLAGHAN, Major G.M.: Epsom British Union; husband of Womens District Leader, father of three Blackshirt daughters.
DAY, A.E.: East London British Union; Union Movement; post-war Dub; in dealer rare books.
DIXON, R.: early member Nelson and Colne British Union.
DONOVAN, Heather nee BOND: Womens D/Leader Westminster St. George's British Union; Drum Major British Union's Asst/Director General, Captain B.D.E. Donovan just prior to their both 188 political imprisonment in 1940.
ELIJOTT, Mrs 'Flo': Slough British Union, wife of Charles, 188 British Political Prisoner; founder member Bournemouth Union Movement, later South London activist.
GOODWIN, Philip: Union Movement Organiser Newport, Isle of Wight.
HAWORTH, Lt. Col. Sir Lionel Berkeley Holt, KBE: King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, 2nd Bombay Lancers & 9th Bombay Infantry; Consul General Meshad, Khorasan & Fars, Khuzestan & Persian Coasts & Ireland; British Union Parliamentary Candidate for Chelsea.
HEYS, Norman: Accrington British Union; 188 British Political Prisoner; Brighthouse Union Movement.
JOHNSON, J.W.: British Union Bethnal Green shoemaker; 188 British Political Prisoner; U.M.
LIGHTFOOT, Leon: British Union District Leader, Guildford.
MARCONI, Frank: early Blackshirt; in motor cycle accident.
MITCHELL, Andrew W.: Glasgow Union Movement; merchant navy - died at sea.
OSKIN, Miss Elsie: London British Union speaker; French, German & music teacher; jailed 2 years in war for criticising Churchill; St. Marylebone Union Movement Branch Organiser.
POWELL, Jack: Hereford British Union; from injuries after motor-cycle accident.
ROGGE, Harold: Manchester Exchange British Union.
ROSE, Mrs G.: Bethnal Green British Union & Union Movement.
SWIFT, Reginald 'Swifty': Upton British Union.
BAILEY, Dennis: Clapham British Union Cadet; adopted son of BU Inspector Peter Symes; casualty during Munich crisis.
BURN, 'Andy': Royal Flying Corps 1914-18; British Union 1933-40; British Political Prisoner 1940-42; Union Movement 1948-76.
CLARKE, Ernest: British Union County Propaganda Officer, Durham.
COLLINGS, Mrs M.: Woolwich Union Movement.
DESMOND, John Patrick: CHH KIH MIE (Dad); Superintendent Eng. PWD Central Provinces, India; Worthing British Union.
DODS, C.W. 'Bill': S/Croydon British Union; Union Movement Accounts Inspector 1950 & Sydenham Branch UM; At Sidmouth, Devon.
FALLS, Nora nee PEARSON: Bournemouth British Union & Union Movement.
FELDMICK, L.L.: West Lewisham British Union; ex RAF.
GARRIS, L.: Lewisham Union Movement.
GREENFIELD, Richard George: N/London early Blackshirt; at 79.
GRINDY, Mrs Marion: wife of Leslie Grindy, British Union D/Leader & D/Inspector, Huddersfield.
HILLIER, Albert: St. Marylebone Union Movement.
HUNTER, Frank: Blackburn Blackshirt; motor cycle accident.
LING, Bob: British Union District Leader, Ealing; 188 British Political Prisoner; Union Movement.
LINN, Jack: British Union Harrow after Newcastle District Leader.
MARSH, Miss Mariel: British Union; early London Union Movement member.
PEGG, Ron: Islington British Union & Union Movement.
PEEL, Dr Peter, Ph.D.: early Blackshirt; RAF pilot 1939-46; in California.
PRATT, George: British Union District Leader St. Marylebone.
REDGRAVE, Emdie: East London market trader loyal Mosley supporter; Inns of Court Regt W/War 2.
THOMSON, Alexander Raven: British Union Director of Policy; Editor of "Action" 1939/40 & "Union" 1948/55; 188 British Political Prisoner; soldier, writer, speaker, philosopher; true comrade and British & European patriot.
TYLER, Francis 'Frank': Limehouse British Union & Union Movement; father of UM's Peter Tyler.
WALLACE, W. Vivian: Putney British Union & Union Movement; 188 British Political Prisoner with sister, father & mother.
WILSON, Mrs Lilian: N/East Bethnal Green British Union; wife of 'Archie'.

August 1980

22 August 1955

15 August 1968

9 August 1939

2 August 1965

August 1936

13 August 1935

August 1948

13 August 1971

26 August 1988

17 August 1986

31 August 1984

August 1950

31 August 1990

August 1987

8 August 1934

20 August 1963

August 1936

August 1988

August 1936

August 1988

August 1977

26 August 1954

2 August 1983

August 1934

26 August 1971

13 August 1987

2 September 1938

September 1936

September 1938

September 1974

September 1938

September 1938

September 1982

September 1982

September 1989

British Union

11 September 1951

September 1980

8 September 1958

September 1938

17 September 1936

September 1950

4 September 1962

September 1937

September 1936

September 1952

September 1938

31 AA RE(TA)

October 1938

31 October 1976

October 1937

October 1949

11 October 1938

12 October 1984

October 1949

October 1938

October 1949

October 1989

22 October 1989

October 1948

11 October 1937

9 October 1975

October 1938

October 1990

October 1987

October 1988

17 October 1989

October 1989

188

30 October 1955

5 October 1975

October 1981

October 1990

OLD COMRADES



LETTERS

BOOK ON BUF HELP WANTED

IN THE MID-1980's former members of British Union were kind enough to help me in my research into the Movement when I was at Oxford University.

Through allowing me to interview them, or answering my questionnaire, I was able to record the thoughts and histories of some 45 old Blackshirts. All the material provided by these men and women was received in the strictest confidence and no person details have, or will ever be released except with the specific, written, approval of the participants. Nonetheless the material has proved to be a valuable historical archive on the lives and supporters of Mosley and his Movement. Many who took part are no longer with us but their memory is preserved through their involvement in the project.

I would now like to extend this project as I am working with another historian on a book on British Union, and I suspect that thanks to the work of Friends of O.M. in recent years, more old Blackshirts might like to be involved, to have their say about those action-filled years!

So if any are interested in answering a questionnaire about British Union, please write to: Stephen Cullen, c/o Friends of O.M.

CORRECTION

'Another bloody Blackshirt'

Comrade May/July

Was not Stan Verrall a Black-shirt speaker in the Isle of Thanet? - Kent, not Essex. P.L. Quite right. I was dreaming. Ed

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COMRADE

Newsletter of Friends of O.M.

No.36. NOVEMBER 1992

'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'



'I BELIEVE that we shall gradually pass into a period of ever increasing crisis, one after another. A crisis, then a recovery, each time getting worse, until at last we come to the supreme crisis'

Oswald Mosley: Manchester Free Trade Hall, April 1958

BRITAIN IN SLUMP

By
ROBERT ROW

Return of the 1930s — but much worse Mosley vindicated

SO IT HAS COME, the general crisis of the old system - as OSWALD MOSLEY warned 40 years ago. But far more dangerous has been the crumbling of British strength before this crisis arrived. Mosley warned against this, too. He told Parliament in 1930 when he resigned from a Labour government: "What I fear more than a sudden crisis is a long, slow crumbling through the years, a gradual paralysis beneath which all the vigour and energy of this country will succumb".

British Sovereignty?

"THE POUND was effectively devalued last night after the wildest and most expensive day on the markets Britain has ever seen..... speculators brought it to the brink of collapse"

Daily Mail September 17

"LET ME control a nation's money and I care not who writes its laws"

Mayer Amschel, founder of the House of Rothschild

Look around you, and you will see a once great country in no condition to face this crisis. The sheer speed of the mounting crisis shows how much of Britain's former strength has been rotted away by the old party politicians who have disgraced office too long.

All the bright boys and girls of the media echo Mosley now. We are back in the 1930s! But what is always forgotten about the 1930s is that they were as bad at the end as at the

Our guest contributor
ROBERT ROW is editor
of "Action"
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start. The 1931 crisis brought a severe slump, but a 'National' government formed from all the old parties managed a short boom in the mid-1930s. This soon ran down. In 1937 Mosley warned, "The booms will get shorter, the slumps longer". And 1937 was the year for the next turn-down.

By 1939, despite rearmament, unemployment was shooting up again. 'Another 1931' was in sight. What did the old parties do? Led by Neville Chamberlain, they got Britain involved in the Second World War. This postponed the slide into slump, but Britain has never recovered from the strains of that war. This became increasingly clear after peace returned in 1945.

→ 6

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

"What though we ourselves
are smitten,
This, our faith can never
die!"

BANGS, Lt. Jack P.L.:

R/Sussex Regt. (attached Gloucesters): 20: one of three Brighton Br. Brit-Union killed in action in WW2: at Stampersgate, Holland: Lies in Geel War Cemetery, Belgium.

3 November 1944

BUCKNELL, Sgt Ronald: RAF

(VR): 83 Sqn: 24: Croydon British Union: missing Berlin operation: Remembered Air Force Memorial, Runnymede.

15 November 1944

GILLIES, W/O John H: RAF

(VR): 511 Sqn: British Union speaker: one of three pupils Leytonstone Cty. High School who joined Leytonstone Branch killed in action WW2: Lost off Portreath, Cornwall: Remembered Air Force Memorial, Runnymede. 30 November 1943

WHITE Lt. Albert E.: Lost

HM Trawler "Northern Rover": Leicester British Union: Remembered Lowestoft War Memorial.

5 November 1939

The 'hungry Thirties'



The 'dole' queues and the men in cloth caps have gone but new generations in their thousands now suffer or face the future of the jobless, their hardship unseen and largely unseen while the party politicians chatter away in their Westminster cocoon at £30,000 a year - plus perks and expenses.

If their passion for the deprived is aroused at all it is likely to be for the 'ethnic minorities'



The Rev. H. E. B. Nye.

'But did you know that he was arrested and executed, on a charge of treason?'

THE SCAMPTON MYSTERY

By ROB DAVIS

"DID you know," said the former air-gunner conspiratorially, after we had the hangar doors open for about four hours, "that there was a priest who was in league with an RAF officer, who had a wireless transmitter in the steeple of his church, and was sending secrets to the Germans?"

I was immediately interested. "Tell me more," I said eagerly.

The air-gunner looked into his pint pot as if realising that he had drunk a little, and said a lot, too much. He shook his head slowly. "I shouldn't tell you really. It was a long time ago, just after the war began...."

** - **

"But did you know," went on the WAAF, "that the Squadron Leader was arrested and executed on a charge of treason?"

** - **

Legend is a curious thing. It grows stealthily around true stories, bending the core of their veracity, adding and discarding where it will. Like most legends, it has its roots in truth, and like most legends, it is eighty percent folklore. Did Robin Hood fight the Sheriff of Nottingham? Did King Arthur draw Excalibur from the stone? Could a parish priest be a traitor, and transmit secrets to the enemy?

What I have come to think of as "The Scampton Mystery" is an intriguing series of events. It has its roots in the early days of British Fascism and the tips of its leaves still permeate into today's attitudes and happenings. The research for it has taken me far and wide over the last six years, and even today there are frustrating gaps in the story, some of which will not be filled until well into the next century.

It's beginnings lie in Sir Oswald Mosley's Blackshirts. I can remember my late father describing Mosley as "a blackguard and a traitor" and

until I knew better, I had the same opinion. Having delved into the entire concept and beliefs of the Blackshirt organisation, I am now convinced of the opposite.

One of Mosley's keen supporters from the early days was a cleric, Harold Bustace Bertram Nye. From a distinguished ecclesiastical background, Fr Nye was highly regarded in Scampton as an old fashioned gentleman; kind, generous, warm hearted, who took local children on day trips and seaside holidays. Having taken his BA in 1912 in Dublin, he held ministerial positions at Heigham, Matlock and Chelmsford before becoming Rector of Scampton in 1924. How he became a follower of Mosley is unknown but he was a regular contributor to the BUF's newspaper "Action" which as late as July 1939 published his article "Can Christians Seek Friendship with Atheistic Russia?"

Fr. Nye's parishioners, perhaps with village clannishness, looked upon him as a harmless political eccentric. Scampton was a backwater in those days and on reflection it is doubtful that any of them actually read "Action" but Fr Nye's political leanings were not taken seriously in the parish until after the outbreak of war.

As the situation in France worsened during the early summer of 1940 and the Germans closed on Dunkirk, the Government, in May, rapidly passed the "Defence of the Realm Act" which under the notorious Section 18b, gave them power to arrest and imprison virtually anyone they wished, without trial or appeal. Many Englishmen and women loyal to King and Country were unfairly hustled away to internment camps, where they languished for years, unable to secure either fair trial or release until the tide of the war had turned and they were no longer considered to be security risks.

Just a few hundred yards up the road from the Rectory is Scampton Aerodrome, where as soon as war was declared,

George Lerwill, Johnnie Chick, Oscar Bridgeman, Jamie Pitcairn-Hill and other stalwarts of 49 and 83 Squadrons were feeling their way into bomber operations. (Fellow Bomber Command devotees will know that Guy Gibson cut his operational teeth flying Hampdens with them from Scampton in these early pioneering days.) At that time, the Bomber Barons were often dropping nothing more offensive than leaflets, although one ex-gunner I spoke to had the interesting habit of removing well-appointed bricks from the airmen's urinal wall and pushing them out over German towns!

At Scampton at this time and working on the Intelligence and Operations staff was a Squadron Leader John Wallace Thomson, a Scot, from his rank presumably a career officer. Active on the General Duties staff from early September 1939, he had been posted in from Cranwell in mid-September and was on the staff of Sqn Ldr Pitt, head of Int/Ops at the time. One witness told me that Thomson wore the Military Cross ribbon, but I have found no evidence of such being awarded, although he was Mentioned in Despatches on April 4th 1917, then a Second Lieutenant with 11 Squadron, RFC.

Did Thomson meet Nye?

Thomson is described as "a greying figure in the Anthony Eden mould" and was also a BUF member, although there is nothing to suggest that he submitted articles for the BUF's newspaper. He had no connection with the Lincoln Branch of the BUF, and probably belonged to another branch.

Having read his writings in *Action* he would certainly of known of Nye. Whether or not the two met whilst Thomson was posted to Scampton is no more than a guess. I suggest they did, as the Rectory and the Aerodrome are very close and both were BUF members. It would be natural for them to meet, if only on an informal, private basis.

About the Author

Aerodromologist ROB DAVIS became interested in wartime aviation when as a boy he was given copies of Paul Brickhill's *Reach For The Sky* and *The Dam Busters*. For many years he had read Fighter pilot stories but in early 1980s became more interested in Bomber Command and read avidly on the subject.

Whilst making an in depth study of wartime aerodromes, he came across the Scampton Mystery and spent many years turning up facts and witnesses.

A computer programmer, he is 38 and enjoys programming and computer communications as well as delving into Bomber Command's history.

In late October 1939, 49 Squadron raided enemy territory and as weather prevented their landing back at Scampton the squadron spent the night away from base. A day or so later, in early November, Flight Lieutenant George Lerwill was in his office catching up on paperwork when he received a message that two plain clothes men would like to see him.

"What's this all about?" he asked.

The two men showed no credentials, but as they had passed through the Main Gate - especially vigilant in the present conditions - Flt/Lt Lerwill assumed they were Secret Servicemen.

"Do you own a Hillman car, registration no DT949?"

The Flt/Lt nodded. "Yes, and I'm sorry that the tax has run out, but I have been busy flying. I promise I'll do it tomorrow."

"It's not the tax," replied one of the men, "who was using your car a couple of nights ago?"

"Nobody. It's kept locked up in my garage."

"Where were you?"

"Flying operations. We all landed away, so nobody had the car."

The man went on, "We have reason to believe that a tall RAF Officer used your car to visit the Scampton Rectory. Do you know who that officer might be?"

"Not the least idea, sorry; it certainly wasn't me. Now what's this about anyway?"

"Never mind. And forget that we ever spoke to you."

Flt/Lt Lerwill's operational flying soon put the visit out of his mind. I have not

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discovered any evidence to suggest that at the time, anything further came out of the matter.

Once the 18b amendment to the Defence of the Realm Act had been passed some seven months later, the Government made a rapid swoop on known Blackshirts and anyone else considered to be a security risk, real, potential, or imagined. In the weeks immediately following, some 700 to 800 Blackshirts were arrested and detained.

Rev. Nye arrested

In the first days of July 1940, the newly-formed Scampton Local Defence Volunteers (at the end of July to be renamed the Home Guard) were called out by more men in plain clothes. The corporal in charge of the LDV unit, a brisk, tough-but-fair type, and a former boy soldier from the First World War, was instructed to escort the plain clothes men to the Rectory where his platoon were present for the arrest of Fr Nye.

Nye, branded guilty without trial, was sent to several internment camps, ending up at Peveril Camp at Peel in the Isle of Man. For a man of his nature, a scholarly ecclesiastical gentleman, it must have all been a terrific shock.

Squadron Leader Court Martialled

The Security Services pounced on Thomson, but what happened to him is less clear. I suggest that the RAF's own security people took control of him because on June 19 1940 he was posted to Uxbridge - a bad sign - under a Judiciary notice, where he was Court Martialled.

The nature of his offence and the outcome are still regarded as classified, but he finished up under an 18b Detention Order at Bryton Camp near Liverpool, a newly built Council Estate which was turned into an Internment Camp by the simple expedient of throwing a barbed wire fence around it.

RAF's Blackshirts

Many BUF members both here and elsewhere, loyal to King and Country, were cruelly treated by unsympathetic Army guards and interrogators, and their willingness to volunteer for military, medical or non-combatant duties was often ignored. Nevertheless, many Blackshirts served actively in the Services and no small number distinguished themselves, especially in the

RAF. In fact the very first casualties of the War included two BUF members, AC2s Kenneth Day and George Brooking, killed in action with 9 Squadron on a daylight raid over Brunsbittel on September 4th, 1939.

After diligent research, I traced Frank Townsend, the Scampton RAF padre from this period. He was happy to chat about the old days, and I gradually steered the conversation onto the Scampton Mystery. "What, old Nye?" said the voice on the other end of the line. "He was always regarded as suspicious, you know. Lights flashing, suppressed messages, that sort of thing." Then there was a long pause. "I don't want to talk about it," he went on, and hung up.

F/Lt Lerwill survived Operational flying and years later was posted to Upper Heyford, where he chanced to meet a WAAF officer who he knew from the Scampton days. They talked of "do you remember so and so" and for many names there was only a mention of a final raid, or a flying accident. Suddenly the WAAF officer asked if he remembered Sqdn/Ldr Thomson.

"Yes, of course. He was on the Intelligence staff."

"But did you know that he was arrested and executed, on a charge of treason?"

It was only then that the penny dropped, and he recalled the visit by the two Secret Servicemen. For many years he had wondered if there had been a connection between the two events.

Fifty years after

Fifty years later I visited Scampton, determined to discover the truth of the matter and perhaps clear Fr Nye's name if he had been so unfairly treated, or indeed, to see if anyone in the area remembered anything of the matter.

The vergier, who had not long moved to the area, told me that there was no Rector at present, the post being temporarily vacant, and he showed me a list of previous incumbents. There was a definite gap between 1939 and 1941, during which time services were held by the RAF padre from Scampton. Fr Nye's period of service was clearly identified either side of the gap, and the vergier somewhat cautiously informed me that there was something odd about Nye's disappearance, and that he returned from somewhere on the Isle of Man in mid 1941.

It was better not to enquire too closely he said as there was still ill feeling

in the village and relations were still alive. I left him with a minor donation, and seeking further enlightenment, asked if there were any parishioners old enough to help me further.

In the light of his warning I ought to have known better, but in the best Bomber Command tradition, I pressed on. The first man I called on was bucolic and, at first, friendly. I revealed my interest in the aerodrome and we chatted amiably for ten minutes about flying and crashes. When I steered the conversation around to Nye I was surprised at the strength of his reaction.

"Don't want to hear a word against him. He was a gentleman. Now get off my property."

A neat bungalow at the other end of the village turned up another man who had lived in the village at the time, and had been an active parishioner during the war years. "Nye was all right really," he told me when I had managed to convince him that I was a bona fide researcher, and not a sensationalist. "He was very shabbily treated by the Government, and nobody thought the worse of him when he came back. He just picked up where he left off. The story about a wireless transmitter is ridiculous! Nye would never have done that."

I described Nye's involvement with the BUF and his contributions to their newspaper. "Bah!" he said. "Nobody read that thing. All traitors, weren't they, the Mosley lot? They didn't want to fight. Still, Nye was all right."

Next I travelled to the former LDV corporal's house in the next village. He was present at Nye's arrest. A true old soldier, still stiff and correct in his late 70s, he clammed up as soon as I mentioned my inquiry. Standing on his doorstep for almost two hours, I gradually chipped away at his guarded reserve, learning of Nye's arrest and the fact that the LDV had been asked to watch the house on suspicion of the Rector signalling. This was probably a poor blackout, but all the same, the suspicion was there from the first days of the war.

"It seemed odd to us. Nye was harmless. I won't hear a word against him. He did sometimes let his politics come through into his sermons, and I suppose someone blew the gaff."

Bearing in mind the nationwide fear of fifth columnists "blowing the gaff" seems the most likely explanation; but

remember that Nye was well known as a BUF member, and would have been on a list of those likely to be detained under the catch-all Section 18b.

Fifty years on the old soldier wouldn't really unbend; Careless Talk still Costs Lives. We parted on fairly friendly terms but I am sure that he had not told me half of it.

Official records - "began to disappear"

After this I turned my attention back to S/Ldr Thomson, and now that I was starting to delve into official records, curiously enough they began to disappear. Certain documents at the Public Records Office, Kew, were mysteriously unavailable. It was at this time that I began to think that maybe there had been something untoward going on between Nye and Thomson, and the authorities were still sensitive about it.

Having written to my MP, some wheels turned and I had a letter from the RAF telling me that S/Ldr Thomson had been Court Martialled and interned, but also that he had been released in 1941 after successful appeal. He had then left the Air Force. His confidential file was of course closed, and his Court Martial file was closed for 75 years, that is until 2014.

Other letters to official bodies went missing, were replied to six months later, or not at all. The RAF legal branch and Ministry of Defence library had "never heard of the Defence of the Realm Act" and referred me to non-existent extension numbers.

Next I re-investigated Nye through former members of the British Union of Fascists which was prescribed by the Government in June 1940 and therefore no longer exists. I was surprised to learn however, that "The Friends of O.M." is alive, if politically inactive. Their purpose to bind together all those who have supported Sir Oswald Mosley's policies and ideals, and to expose what they regard as falsehoods laid at Mosley's door.

They are a grand bunch of chaps whose feelings still rankle over their treatment, and to whom Sir Oswald - to whom they refer reverently as O.M. - is something like a God. They are helpful, incredibly informative, and incredibly keen.

I was quite mesmerised by a recording of one of Mosley's speeches. He was incidentally,

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THE SCAMPTON MYSTERY

trained as a First World War Royal Flying Corps pilot having transferred to the RFC from the 16th Queen's Light Dragoons. A flying crash in May 1915 worsened a previous ankle injury and although he was recalled to his Army unit in France, his unhealed leg deteriorated in the trenches and he was medically discharged.

He spoke a lot of sense and his presence was very powerful. A number of former BUF members I met remembered Nye and Thomson, and I had accounts from eyewitnesses at Huyton and Peel Camps.

Enquiries with various official ecclesiastical bodies turned up no useful information. It was likely that the local Bishop would deal with such matters in private and without correspondence, so that avenue was a dead end. Like many official organisations, they tell you only what they want to tell you; you must accept it, for there is little recourse.

** - **

What did happen?

What did happen at Scampton in those dark days? There is no concrete evidence to suggest that F/Lt Lerwill's car was actually borrowed by S/Ldr Thomson, and this part of the Mystery is unresolved.

I put forward the theory that Nye urgently needed to contact Thomson, perhaps to pass on a vital BUF message. In those days the Rectory was one of the few Scampton households with a telephone. Nye rang Scampton Aerodrome to speak to Thomson, and unable to discuss the crux of the reason for his call arranged a meeting with him. Thomson, being involved with Operational planning, would know that F/Lt Lerwill was away, and stealthily borrowed his Hillman car to call at the Rectory.

Word had reached upwards of the tall officers visit to the Rectory in October, with a note of the car's registration number. In those days, telephone exchanges were manually operated, and it is possible that the telephone call was overheard at the local exchange. The RAF switchboard would have been monitored by Service telephonists, and perhaps there was a parishioner or villager with a grudge.

In June 1940, with these details on file, the Germans on the Channel coast, fervour and vigilance running high, and the Government's emergency legislation just enacted, the

Security Services came down on Nye, knowing he was a fervent Blackshirt, and the balloon went up on Thomson as well.

Once things had cooled down, the two of them were released, Nye sooner, Thomson much later. Thomson's son was an officer in a Scottish regiment which happened to be on garrison duty at Huyton when his father was released. He walked through the Huyton Camp security gate and straight into the Jock's Officers Mess, was entertained, and given a meal as his son's guest! I haven't been able to trace either him or his son, but my research establishes that he was not executed.

Shortly after Thomson left Huyton, the Camp was closed and the entire contingent transferred to the more stringent confinement at Peel Camp on the Isle of Man.

According to information I have received, Nye was released on August 25th 1940. However he did not return to Scampton until Spring 1941. What he was doing in the meantime is unknown but it is likely that he was convalescing after his detention. He continued as Rector until he left in 1947, and thereafter lived at Lytham St. Annes, which I believe was his birthplace, until his death in the late 1970s.

I traced his daughter Beryl assuring her that I wasn't passing judgement on anyone and only wished to know the truth of the matter, but she wouldn't talk. It is possible that she was detained but I have been unable to confirm it. No response was received from any of his other relatives, some of whom denied any association with him.

A curious postscript to F/Lt Lerwill's story follows years after the war ended. He was serving in the Pacific as a Wing Commander in Intelligence and remembering the Thomson incident, asked around, to be told that it didn't happen and that he had better forget it. The RAF it seems would prefer to forget it too, although F/Lt Lerwill retired as a well decorated Group Captain.

In conclusion, I can't believe that Nye and Thomson were in league with anyone, other than their mutual involvement with the Blackshirts. Nye's character is otherwise unimpeachable and if Thomson had been seriously implicated, he would have been detained immediately on arrival at Uxbridge; yet he is rostered for ordinary duties there.

I am quite satisfied that the story of the Rector and

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

BRITAIN'S SUICIDE

RE your splendid article on Britain's suicide may I point out that a further large nail was driven into the British Empire's coffin 9 years after the disastrous Washington Naval Conference when Britain had a Labour Government many members of which were committed to "ending the evils of colonialism." Prime Minister Ramsay MacDonald called an Imperial Conference which resulted in the passage in 1931 of the Statute of Westminster. In a formula drafted by the ever-generous A.J. Balfour Britain and the Dominions were now defined as "autonomous communities within the British Empire, equal in status, in no way subordinate one to another in any aspect of their domestic or internal affairs, though united by a common allegiance to the Crown, and freely associated as members of the British Commonwealth of Nations."

This legislation made

COMRADE

Through the 1930's Mosley had campaigned for peace using the slogan "THE BRITISH EMPIRE'S SUICIDE". The power plane to defend the Dominions of British Empire was there.

BRITAIN

The Country That Had It All - and Threw It All Away

"COMRADE" August/October

Australia, Canada, the Irish Free State, Newfoundland, New Zealand and South Africa sovereign nations with their own treaty-making powers and diplomatic representation. Henceforth the British Parliament could not legislate for any Dominion without its consent.

Thereafter the one tenuous link between Britain and its self-governing Dominions was the Crown. We are now in a position where Australia looks intent on becoming a Republic, Canada is in danger of splitting up and South Africa is on the way to total chaos.

Peter West

Essex

— and a Correction

THE BRITISH EMPIRE IN 1900



At the turn of the century the British Empire occupied one-fifth of the land surface of the globe and had a population of 4,000,000

"COMRADE" August/October

The lost millions! The population of the British Empire in the early Twentieth Century was 400,000,000. (British Government Blue Book: March 8 1906)

the Squadron Leader being in league and passing secrets to the enemy is just that - pure fiction, and runaway legend.

Thomson was definitely Court Martialled, but I suggest that this was for an offence unconnected with BUF membership. Nye, however, never faced a British Court and was never granted a hearing, contrary to the basic tenets of British Justice. One can understand the resultant ill feeling on the part of his family and former parishioners only too well.

Even today, the aftermath lingers. I doubt that we will ever know the full

facts of the Scampton Mystery.

Acknowledgements and Sources of Information:

Group Captain George Lerwill DFC RAF(Rtd); Tom Bailey, the Rt. Hon Nigel Lawson MP; John Christian, Editor of "Comrade and members of Friends of O.M.; Public Records Office; "We Marched With Mosley" an unpublished manuscript by Richard Reynell Bellamy; "Fascism in Britain: A History" by Richard Thurlow; "Oswald Mosley" by Robert Skidelsky; Crockford's Clerical Directory and personal interviews.

THE MOSLEY SOUND HERITAGE



"Who Speaks for Britain?"
Oswald Mosley launches
Union Movement

Mosley on Money

Pre-World War 1

1925

BANKING and Credit are the key points of the economy and their command is essential to any effective planning by government.

1930

The whole policy on which I resigned (from Labour Government) was sharply divided between an ad hoc emergency programme and a long-term policy to reconstruct the whole basis of our industrial life changing our economy from a financiers to a producers system.

1932

Our banking system is based on mammoth money-lending.... Such a system contributes little to the building up of a constructive financial organism.

1938

By flux lives the financier and by flux dies the producer. The flux of the system arises from the unlimited power to gamble in primary

Union Movement Founding Conference

AT a packed conference at Westminster's Wilfred Street School on February 7 1948, SIR OSWALD MOSLEY launched his new UNION MOVEMENT.

Refused access to all large halls, the meeting was restricted to representatives of 51 organisations who over the previous 18 months had campaigned for his return to politics after the war, asking "Who Speaks for Britain"

In his speech Mosley highlighted the failures of the current first post-war Labour government, and reminded his audience of the comradeship of the two war generations and appealed for a new spirit to save Britain; to achieve new heights and gain its rightful place in leadership of a united Western Civilisation.

Research has proved that the hour-long speech was recorded in full and the next day, Sunday, played to an audience at a street meeting at Ridley Road, Dalston. In the next ten days a loud-speaker van toured the provinces relaying Mosley's message to crowds in Oxford, Derby, Birmingham and Manchester. Within two weeks an adited version was available for purchase on a 12 inch 78 RPM Disc at £1.5s.0 (£1.25). It was made by the company SOUND TRANSMISSION who also equipped the loud-speaker van but no trace of any of these discs has been found.

It is almost inconceivable that, even if it is 45 years ago, that a purchased copy of

the 12 inch record does not exist in private hands.

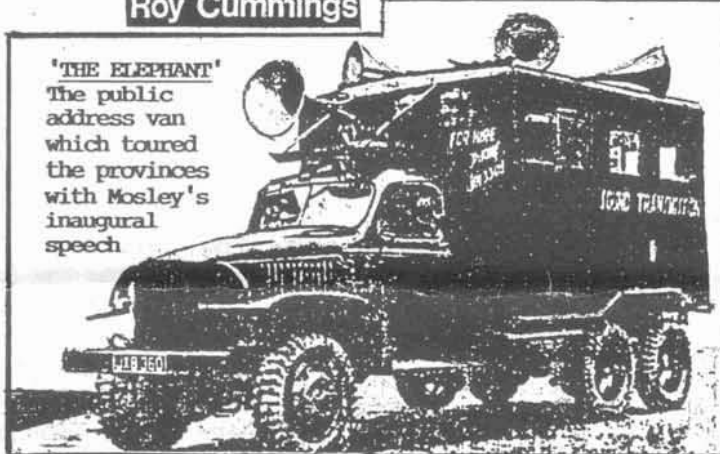
There are now a good number of Mosley speeches preserved for posterity, but this missing record is a grievous loss.

I would appeal to all readers of COMRADE who were at that first UNION MOVEMENT meeting to make every effort to assist us retrieve this vital part of our history. Any memories of the detail of the recording could be useful, and indeed a reader might even have a copy.

Roy Cummings

'THE ELEPHANT'

The public address van which toured the provinces with Mosley's inaugural speech



His consistent challenge in his writings to the power of international finance to break governments "and subsequently control them"

Compiled by
ROBERT RICHARD

commodities which supply the productive industries of the world.

A complete revolution in our financial system is required.

Post-World War 2

1946

"What a transformation of the present system and what forces you are challenging", says the old world. "Yes", we retort, "We are challenging great forces and we are carrying through nothing less than a revolution in the subordination of finance to industry".

* * * * *

But the key to the problem is power in Government and it is for no light or idle reason that we ask for real power. This struggle requires in Government a power so all-pervading that the financier who resists it and

breaks the law may know with certainty that he will go for a good spell where the poor go today when they break the law. Once confronted with overwhelming power in Government willingly conferred by the people, the resistance of finance to the new order will break, and the financiers will become the servants and no longer the masters of the people... Tones could be written on credit policy and have been written with infinite diversity in particular if with broad agreement from modern minds in general. The writer in earlier years contributed to these divers studies of one of the most fascinating subjects that can engage the modern mind. But experience brings some lessons, and one lesson is that the creative urge of modern man to build a credit system that serves the people and not the financiers may well be lost in the desert sands of divers detail... To play with credit problems in the absence of real power is merely to court the classic inflationist disaster of an impotent

reformism.

1947

....the Labour Party, which has never dared mention in a programme the great International Finance houses which for years past have dominated the economy of this country and most of the world, should proudly boast that it has brought under National ownership and control a Bank of England whose Governor, in actual practise and for long past, has attended the Treasury at regular intervals.... So a world of make-believe replaces reality in all spheres, and particularly in the realm of Finance.

1958

At present, banking is a bug-bear to progressive thinkers. The reason is that this power has on occasions been the master and not the servant of the community. Within the international system it exercises a decisive power, because the flight of capital in one way or another despite all normal restrictions is possible so long as international



Hackney's BOBBY PIPKIN greets the birth of the new Movement at the Conference.

Bobby emigrated with his large family to Australia in the 1950s, and it has been said that he became a township Mayor

ANNOUNCEMENT SANCTUARY PRESS

OUR front page guest writer **ROBERT ROW**, Editor of "Action", the monthly paper that once supported Union Movement, but now Action Society, has asked us to publish his apologies to his readers, many of whom are "Comrade" readers, for the dropping of his November issue.

In the aftermath of the death early this year of **Jeffrey Hamm**, who was Secretary of Action Society and of the publishers, Sanctuary Press, an extra work-load has been thrust on Bob Row, including problems which many of his readers will understand, and he asks for their understanding during this difficult period.

1 BRITAIN IN SLUMP

A temporary recovery papered over the worst cracks. This simply postponed the inevitable. An armaments boom run from America propped up the sagging British economy. Harold Macmillan inflated and told us we "never had it so good". Harold Wilson inflated more, and a thousand professors of economics insisted that all slumps belonged to history. But a thousand evils flourished in Labour's paradise for fools financed by the big hand-out and the free lunch.

Then came Mrs. Thatcher. She put an end to the free lunch paradise, but at the cost of a sharp slump in the early 1980s. The North Sea was gushing oil by then, and on it floated the next boom. Chancellor Lawson was in charge of it, and he added the fatal stimulus of easy mortgages and rising debt. Topped up by the big tax cuts in his last Budget, the boom developed a roaring head of inflationary steam - and a Tory government decided another slump was needed to curb it.

IN MEMORIAM

"Hark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages.
Britain listens and rejoices,
Gazing on Tradition's pages..."

BEVAN, Charles: Founder member West Ham(Upton) British Union Branch.

November 1938

BURWOOD, Mary: wife of Br. Union and Un. Movement's Dicky Burwood of Bethnal Green.

24 November 1991

DICK, Colin Pomeroy: Br. Union businessman NHQ Branch: 18b British Political Prisoner: arrested on return from Dunkirk 1940 after rescuing some 500 troops in his machine-gunned motor launch *Advance*: 22 November 1953

GOWING, Horace: Derby Br. Union: 18b British Political Prisoner: on release wartime founder *Sons of St. George*: Union Movement: at 30 from TB contracted in *Walton Jail* and *Ascot Concentration Camp*.

November 1949

HARDY SMITH, Mrs F.M.: nearly member Leicester Sth British Union: founder of *Poor School Mission*: at 87

November 1936

MAIN, Miss Christian: Lochinhead, Perth Br. Un. & U. Movement: November 1965

MANICO, Dorothy: Wom D/Ldr Chichester British Union: wife of D/Ldr Capt. F.E. Manico.

12 November 1949

MARENDAZ, Captain D.M.K.: NHQ Br. British Union & mbr. BUF Automobile Club: RFC spotter first tank battle Cambrai WW1: propr. flying train. school: 18b British Political Prisoner: at 91.

6 November 1988

MENDHAM, F.W. 'Freddie': Br. Union D/Ldr Hackney: 18b British Political Prisoner: Union Movement Organiser Hackney South.

November 1960

MORRIS, John: Manchester Branch British Union

November 1936

O'DONOGHAN, Rose: wife of old comrade PAT, Shoreditch British Union and South London Union Movement.

27 November 1986

PACKER, Charlie: Un. M accountant 1948-85: Mayor of Bexley 1978-9.

27 November 1985

PARSONS, H.J.: Aldershot Br. Union: 18b Political Prisoner: Union Movement.

19 November 1976

PRATT, Thomas Wilson: oldest Wilts Blackshirt: friend of OM's father and grandfather.

2 November 1936

RING, Margaret: mother of Ilford A/D/L and UM's Eddy.

5 November 1938

TAYLOR, Edward: Folkestone British Union

11 November 1936

VEALE, F.J.P.: solicitor mbr. Brighton Br. British Union & Union Movement: *Action & Union* contributor: author of *Advance to Barbarism & Crimes* *Discreetly Veiled*.

27 November 1976

WOOSTER, Dennis: Maidenhead British Union: in m/car acc. 16 November 1934

16 November 1934

But now all the old tricks to postpone the inevitable had been tried. Mosley's words are now to be proved true. He said in 1937 that the slumps would get longer than the booms, and twenty years later, in 1958, he predicted that graver crises would continue to follow lesser recoveries until at last would come the supreme crisis. This slump is the longest since the last war and the deepest since the 1930s.

Mosley's long-term prediction is about to be fulfilled. He warned in "Action" in 1952: "What is coming to Britain? The answer is, scrap the parties and unite the nation to make a new system. It is necessary because the old system has failed. It has failed because it is a century out of date. In addition the parties have knocked the old machine to pieces by fighting an unnecessary war".

The plain fact is that Britain faces a crisis

worse than the 1930s not only because the economic system is obsolete. In addition, British strength has been criminally squandered during its 'long, slow crumbling' since the 1930s, especially during the 1939-45 war, and the weaker nation now has to carry a huge load of debt.

And the nation awakes from its long opium dream to find that midgets are in charge of its destinies - what could be worse?

Mosley's long life of struggle against a corrupt old system has been vindicated in every respect.

5 MOSLEY on MONEY

trading on world markets continues, and this ability gives to finance the power to break governments and consequently to control them.

1968

The international system of trade places a nation completely at the mercy of international finance, on which trade rests.

Why? Why is it right and

Old Comrades



DEEPEST SYMPATHY

OUR DEEPEST SYMPATHY to old comrade and F.O.M. Council member **SID BAILEY** on the death of his wife Rose on 23rd September.

And our best wishes for a speedy recovery after his own hospital emergency following his bereavement.

"COMRADE" Back Numbers.

Although *Comrade* is a free service, including postage, to those registered on our mailing list, we do have to charge for back numbers.

As it is a free newspaper only a few extra copies are printed to keep costs at a minimum. Requests for back numbers have therefore to be produced by single photocopy and it is this cost which has to be passed on to the reader.

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2,3	36p
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proper and desirable that capital should go overseas to equip factories to compete against us, to build roads and railways...to provide employment for people in other countries, while it is supposed to shake the whole basis of our financial strength if anyone dares to suggest the raising of money by the Government of this country to provide employment?

Published for Friends of O.M. by John Christian, 101, Owell Court, London E8 4EP

The Commemoration Dinner: Saturday November 14th.

★ LAST RESERVATIONS MONDAY NOVEMBER 9TH. ★

COMRADE

Incorporating ACTION and UNION

Newsletter of Friends of O.M.U.



'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'

No.37

January, 1993

'To hold political opponents in gaol while a gross untruth is circulated against them is a procedure that cannot be justified to History'

Oswald Mosley, writing to Winston Churchill in October 1942

CHURCHILL'S FIRST 'VICTORY' Against his own - and British Liberty Died

IN A COUNTRY whose legislators have long proclaimed their devotion to the cause of individual liberty one might reasonably expect members of the legal profession to be greatly concerned about mass arbitrary arrests and imprisonment without trial. But in 1940 Britain's political prisoners found it impossible to find lawyers willing to act on their behalf. Nor have Britain's lawyers paid much attention to this subject during the intervening half century. Only now has a distinguished expert on legal matters, Professor A W B SIMPSON, investigated the whole affair at great length and in his new book On the Highest Degree Odious, reviewed in this issue, reached conclusions that could be hardly more critical.

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

*"What though we ourselves
are written,
This, our faith can never
die!"*

BURTONSHAW, Flt. Sgt. D.F.

RAF (VR) 156 Sqdn: 20, killed in action Berlin Op: Brighton British Union: Remembered Air Force Memorial, Runnymede. 3 January 1944
GRANT, Sgt F.A.J.: RAF (VR) 102

Sqdn: 22: killed in action Mannheim Op: Ealing British Union: Editor Branch newsletter 1939/40: Lies in Abbeyville Communal Cemetery, France: 6 December 1944

MORGAN, G.W. 'Jock': A/B RN; Lost on HMS Repulse sunk off Malaysia: Limehouse and N/E Bethnal Green British Union and popular London speaker. 10 December 1941

On 24 August 1939, exceptional powers were granted to the British Government through an Emergency Powers Act passed by a specially convened Session of both Houses of Parliament. The first section of this Act allowed the Monarch to make whatever Defence Regulations seemed necessary by Order in Council. Four days later a first list of regulations was issued and was more or less a repetition of the Defence of the Realm Act of 1914. The Home Secretary could detain any person who he believed to be of 'hostile origin or associations.'

During the "Phoney War" period only a handful of people were detained but at a meeting of the War Cabinet on 22 May 1940 it was decided to amend Regulation 18B to "catch any member of a

by PETER MARCY

fascist or pro-fascist organisation the Government wanted to put inside" according to Mosley's biographer Professor Robert Skidelsky. This decision, with Churchill absent from the meeting, was made by Atlee, Chamberlain, Greenwood and Lord Halifax.

The man the Government was principally concerned to silence was Oswald Mosley.

There was no doubt that Churchill had a bad conscience about 18B under which a total of 1829 persons were imprisoned of whom 747 were British Union members. The imprisonment of Mosley and his principle supporters had been one of the unspoken conditions for Labour's participation in the Coalition Government. Churchill could see the enormous value of any kind of decisive action at a time of military disaster abroad and political panic at home. But in his heart he knew that these were Machiavellian machinations and that innocent men and women were being sentenced to underserved, life-long disgrace - a fate he would have considered worse than death in battle. It was for this reason that Churchill - constantly prompted by his son Randolph - issued a series of memos intended to ameliorate internment conditions to the Home Secretary, Herbert Morrison, which - in Churchill's words - "this wretched man" - did his best to ignore.

By the fourth year of the war, when most political prisoners had been released, Churchill, with an eye on history and who 'began to wonder if 18B were not incompatible with his role of democrat fighting totalitarianism' and called the regulation "in the highest degree odious" and asked for it to be abolished' as

HIS ONE TRUE VICTORY HIS OWN SURVIVAL



AS WE GO TO PRESS a row has erupted in the media and other high areas of power over former Tory minister and historian ALAN CLARK's contention that Churchill should have made peace with Hitler in 1941. This followed the publication of JOHN CHARMLEY's revisionist 'Churchill: the End of Glory - a Political Biography' which it is said supports Alan Clark's view.

Some reviewers have suggested that this Charmley/

→ 2

put by Lady Mosley reviewing Professor Simpson's book in the Evening Standard. But, 'By then' continued Lady Mosley, 'the Home Secretary had become addicted to the power he enjoyed and he paid no attention.'

Lady Mosley added that the author's conclusion is 'that the war was entirely unaffected by 18B. All the misery, the suffering, the vast expense, not to speak of the permanent dent in British justice was for nothing. Fifty years on, his scholarly book is in the highest degree welcome.'

But the greatest dent will ever remain on the Churchill image from this first of his wartime 'victories'. He acquiesced in the appointment of Herbert Morrison to Home Secretary and permitting the obscenity of permitting his assessment of the loyalty of British Union members, one-third of those detained who had already proved their loyalty on the battlefields of 1914-1918 when Morrison, then a young man, chose to work in an apple orchard as a conscientious objector.



MAJOR PASHA AND THE FORTY THEIVES

By ROBERT ROW

JOHN MAJOR had his summit meeting in Edinburgh in December. It was hailed a great success. All the European Community Leaders were there but the haggling resembled an Eastern Bazaar. Some top politicians carried on more like Forty Thieves. Horse trading between Major Pasha and Gonzalez Effendi of Spain went far into the night but it all ended happily because everyone got a nice new camel to ride home on.

And they called it a European Summit! No wonder Euro-faces Third World immigration when its leaders turned Edinburgh into the land of waving palms.

This wrangling crowd did not even touch the problems that matter most in Europe such as unemployment, debt and depression, just as little Mr. Major shows no sign of leading a recovery in Britain. All their attention was on something else, "putting the Community together again" or "solving Rubik's cube". To solve Rubik's puzzle you need calm and concentrated thinking but Mr. Major's summit put Europe together again like hashish merchants arguing in down-town Baghdad.

But the big question is WHY the Community needed putting together again. WHY? 35 years after the signing of the Treaty of Rome it is still at sixes and sevens? WHY, faced with problems like the slump, could not Mr. Major's Community simply get on with it?

Great political leadership is required for problems like this but that is just what the Treaty of Rome left out. Oswald Mosley always said the political union of Europe should come first. In the real world the horse always draws the cart but the founding fathers of the Community did not agree with this at all.

They built the cart, but there was no horse and when General de Gaulle later came to power in France he stopped the cart. When he retired the Brussels bureaucrats simply took charge of the cart, which is why it is entangled in red tape today.

This inglorious muddle is due to one reason only. The politicians who run Europe have always persisted in doing the opposite of what Mosley said, which was that European Government was the first

necessity of the modern age, the best horse Europe could find.

Then in December 1990, only 34 years late, the Community politicians decided to form what they called 'European union'. The Maastricht Treaty was signed. This planned a common currency without a European government but little Mr. Major found it all too advanced and daring. Nevertheless, to ensure he signed something they let him opt out of two parts of the treaty, including the common currency.

It was a fatal step. It encouraged the Danes to join Major's awkward squad. Britain has nothing to shout about but Denmark's problem is too many wet parties - seven or eight of these nuisances. Though their government signed the Treaty without demanding opt-outs, some of these noisy little gangs wanted to be like Major. They worked up an agitation and managed to get the Treaty defeated in a referendum.

So Mr. Major, who started the rot with his opt-outs, devoted the Edinburgh summit to luring the Danes back into the Maastricht fold. He did it by Bazaar politics, that well-known Eastern way of getting what you want by handing out enough baksheesh. A large bribe always does the trick.

Major Pasha went to work and if he had got two opt-outs for himself, the Danes were offered four! That's business for you.

Among other inducements they were exempted from the common currency. All they wanted anyway was an easy prosperous life with no need to defend it. How could it fail?

This is what is called 'putting Europe together again'. It mattered little what sort of Europe was put together. It mattered less that Maastricht is now a has-been, a farce of a treaty.

All that mattered to the little grey man were some Danish names on a paper, the paper that shelters shirkers. But paper shelters are not much use in a gale.

And there is a gale blowing in Europe today very like the economic blizzard of the 1930s. The incoming U.S. President Clinton is setting up a protectionist administration according to the Sunday Times of 6 December. In 1930 the protectionist President Hoover greatly damaged European

jobs by raising tariff walls around America. But Clinton need not go so far when Europe is already in depression.

Japan was not a top-ranking economy in the 1930s. It is today but slowing down. Germany was and its collapse in 1929 not only led to the rise of Adolf Hitler, but brought storm conditions all over Central Europe. Today, said the Guardian of 17 December, the German economy is 'in crisis'. Everything points to return of the 1930s.

Mosley said many times: "When things really break down change may come very quickly indeed in this country".

The rising gale looks like tearing to shreds what is left of Maastricht, just as the 1930s blizzard put an end to Britain's gold standard system.

It may do more according to the Sunday Telegraph's City

1 HIS ONE TRUE VICTORY

Clark contention was the 'Mosley view' at that time. It is true that before major hostilities had started in the West and there was a chance of averting the European tragedy, Mosley campaigned for Peace, "with Empire intact and people safe, with honour, with security", but the scribes have overlooked that by 1941 Mosley and his men had been languishing in jail for a year, having been put there by Churchill, without charge or trial to silence this view which now, some fifty years late, seems to have its advocates.

But the current controversy begs the question, why were we at war at all? Britain declared war on Germany - Remember? To defend the independence of Poland, REMEMBER?

And it is in the years leading up to the war that Churchill stands accused for he more than any other politician obstructed and schemed against Chamberlain's policy of an understanding with Germany to safeguard our true interests, Britain and the British Empire.

But in the middle 1930s, Churchill, on the wrong side of 60, was a washed-out case in the political wilderness with just enough supporters to fill a taxi. Always unstable he gambled as if he had no tomorrow. He lived the high life. He was always in debt. His flashy friends in international finance kept him going by settling his debts. As the Sunday Telegraph said re-

WORSE THAN 30'S?

THE 30s, Our time, with its Street Corner and Mass Indoor Meetings, Street battles and Marches failed to rouse the British people. Instead we were led into WW2 and 188.

But we did make the effort, we did try!

We may think of the 90s as a mirror of our 30s, but, is it really so? Upon reflection, I think not.

What in our time was a hidden Money Power, a sinister covert menace is today out in the open arrogantly flaunting its financial dictatorship on a global scale. ROBERT RICHARD

column of 13 December: "We are uncomfortably close to a Weimar apostasy, the breeding ground for a Mosleyite platform of sweeping change and renewal...Such a platform may come to be seen as a credible way out - perhaps the only way out".

HAIL MOSLEY!

cently, accusations had been made 'that dependence on the financial support of wealthy Jews dictated his attitude towards Nazi Germany in the years before the War.'

His long life was hardly a glorious one. Lady Churchill said of the 1915 Dardanelles disaster, for which he was mainly responsible: "I can remember when my husband was more hated in England than Sir Oswald Mosley is today". In 1920 Churchill almost disarmed Britain. In 1925 he was a blundering Chancellor and was bitterly denounced during the 1926 General Strike.

But - so the legend runs - when the war he preached finally came about, he went from victory to victory. What victories did the gambling Churchill bring? He bought the alliance with Roosevelt by mortgaging the country to American finance. He embraced the monstrous Stalin, one of "those bloody baboons seated on a throne of skulls" which he had thundered against in the 1920s. The war's real victories were won by his allies, not by Churchill and Britain was left a second class power shorn of Empire.

But for the war Churchill would have signified nothing, a derelict whale drifting off Britain's beaches, spouting wind and water.

Yet he did have the most important victory of all. The one gamble that paid off, his conscious decision to back the international forces that were determined one way or another to have a war with Germany.

It could be said that the making of that decision was his finest hour. But not for the Britain he gambled away.

OUR BLACKSHIRT DEAD

50-YEARS ON another old comrade is found and laid to rest in our Blackshirt Roll of Honour



HMS Repulse

LONDON WELSHMAN 'Jock' Morgan joined Limehouse Branch of British Union shortly after its inception, and after hearing Mosley speak in October 1936 at his successful mass meeting in Salmon Lane following the 'Battle of Cable Street'. Jock had a grandstand view - he was staying at the overlooking Seaman's Mission.

Later Jock transferred to N/East Bethnal Green Branch and became a popular street speaker, having the ability to draw and hold crowds and the Spring of 1939 found him, with Limehouse's Tommy Water, pioneering successful weekly meetings in Hackney. He was also on the London speakers rota and became a popular visiting speaker at Kingston, the local branch asking NHQ for his services as often as possible and inviting him as a guest to their Annual Dinner. Jock obviously liked to speak and it is said that he often arrived voluntarily at other branches and with his "Let's have a meeting" persuaded them to do so at their local pitch.

With the war we believe that with his seaman's background it is probable that he was called up in the Royal Navy Reserve and that on December

10 1941 Able Seaman Jock Morgan was one of the 503 officers and men, out of a complement of 1309 lost when the battle cruiser HMS Repulse was sunk by Japanese torpedo-bombers off Malaysia with the battleship HMS Prince of Wales whose fatal casualties were 327 out of 1612.

The two capital ships, the first war's Repulse and the most modern and pride of the British Navy Prince of Wales had arrived in the Far East within days of the disaster and of Japan's entry into the war as a result of Churchill's constant pressure on the Admiralty, who were against the idea, and were intended by the self-viewed strategist Churchill to act as a deterrent to aggression by the Japanese whose strength and efficiency the Royal Navy's Intelligence Division "are very much inclined to exaggerate" he had earlier told the First Lord of the Admiralty.

"It was" writes Royal Navy official historian Captain Stephen Roskill in his Churchill and the Admirals, a "shocking disaster" and after telling of the Navy's dissent to the Churchill pressure, was "to destroy British prestige

'ANOTHER AIRMAN' WRITES:

I CAN ADD one or two more pieces to the Scampton Mystery.

In September 1940 I was the unappreciative occupant of a single apartment on the top (fifth) floor of the Walton 'Hilton'. My next-door neighbour was a tall, distinguished-looking man who was wearing the uniform of an RAF officer. Squadron Leader J.W. Thomson had grey cropped hair and the piercing blue eyes characteristic in those days of so many airmen. I would not describe him as "a greying figure in the Anthony Eden mould" but he was indeed a handsome man. In the panicky atmos-



Comrade: November 1992

phere of May 1940 if Thomson had innocently passed a copy of "Action" to another Scampton officer it would have been enough excuse to put him on a Court Martial. The Government's unwillingness to release Thomson's Court Martial or 18B files is more likely to be due to the sheer triviality of his offence than his seriousness.

As for Rev. Nye, he was obviously a marked man: he lived near an important air base and before 1939 had written articles advocating friendship with Germany. He

Congratulations

EIGHTY UP!

TO FATHER BROCARD SEWELL, Order of Carmelites, scholar, editor and theologian on a further addition to his many achievements.

His 80th Birthday in December!

We belatedly add our best wishes to those others who gathered to mark the occasion at the Book Trust in London, organised by The Eighteen Nineties Society, of which he is a former Chairman, in association with The Book Trust.

Father Brocard, who was Guest Speaker at our 1987 Commemoration Dinner, was a supporter, from 1936, of British Union though never a member. After the war he got know Oswald Mosley "quite well" he states in his recent autobiography, and to this day a good friend of Lady Mosley.

In the war he served for over four years in the RAF and on release in 1945 entered the novitiate of the Canons Regular at the Priory of Saint Mary and Saint Peter, Bodmin, and has lived a monastic life in three major religious orders. He has skills in private press printing having worked for



four private presses and in 1965 became editor of the Aylesford Review and has since been the author of some sixteen memoirs or biographies of writers.

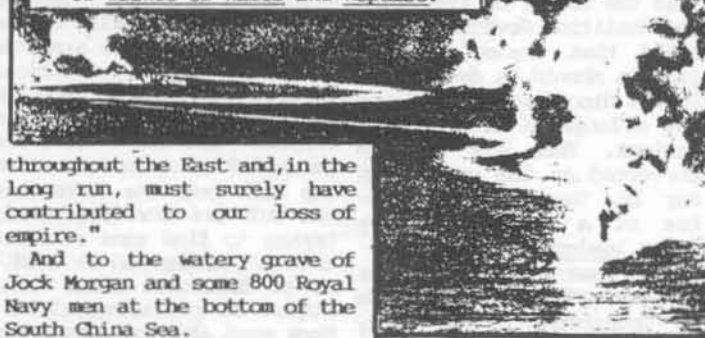
In the church he developed a marked individual line which at times caused clashes with ecclesiastical authority, leading on one occasion to a five year exile in Canada for his dissent from the encyclical Humanae vitae of Pope Paul VI.

In his 1992 autobiography Father Brocard is not backward in showing his regard for Oswald Mosley who was, he says, "...by far the greatest orator of those times".

He was, he writes: "attracting huge audiences with his policies for restoring Britain's greatness, and putting an end to the corruption and inefficiency of

18

Japanese photograph of the sinking of Prince of Wales and Repulse.



throughout the East and, in the long run, must surely have contributed to our loss of empire."

And to the watery grave of Jock Morgan and some 800 Royal Navy men at the bottom of the South China Sea.

had never concealed his membership of British Union. Why should he? It was a free country!

Towards the end of the war I visited Thomson with another former 18B detainee, Phillip Love, at Thomson's home, a large house in the Barnet area. These two men were First World War comrades, for Love had also served in the Royal Flying Corps, in the famous Number 4 Squadron. They shared similar political views.

Both men had marvellous stories to tell of aerial dogfights with the "Red Baron", Von Richthofen, and the other fighter-pilots of Jagdgeschwader 11. In their war, though there had been horror and tragedy in the

skies, there had also been chivalry, honour and mutual respect.

●The reason our correspondent described No.4 Squadron as "famous" is because it achieved three "firsts": It was the only Squadron actually present at its war station - at Eastchurch - when Britain declared war on Germany at 11pm on 4 August 1914; it made the first operational flight - searching for Zeppelins; and on 19 August one of its BE aircraft took part in the first reconnaissance flights over enemy territory. The pilot, Lt. Mapplebeck, was shot down while attacking the station at Lille and was probably the first British airman to escape from a war zone. (Ed.)

AT LAST—a book that exposes the truth on the infamous wartime treatment of Mosley's Blackshirts

IN THE HIGHEST DEGREE ODIUS

Detention Without Trial in Wartime Britain

by **A.W.B. Simpson**

Reviewed by **LEONARD WISE**

"ANY ONE at all to whom the Home Secretary took exception could now be locked up for an indefinite period"

Professor Brian Simpson shows that "Executive Detention", which originated in the 'Irish Troubles' and revived in the First World War, was developed by the Security Service in the interwar period to reach this point by September 1, 1939.

In the Summer of 1940 when the Coalition Government decided that Mosley's organisation should be destroyed, it was discovered that there was a loophole in the Regulations. This was hastily corrected on the evening of May 22. Thereafter any member of a political party whose leaders had had peace-time associations with or sympathised with the system of government of an enemy power could be imprisoned. This was so wide embracing that it would have enabled the Government to arrest every member of the Conservative, Labour and Liberal Parties!

Professor Simpson tells us that Churchill, now Prime Minister, had during his time at the Colonial Office before the First World War, "waxed eloquent on the evils of detention without trial." Now he was prepared to go along with it, though he would soon have second thoughts. "Holding hundreds of citizens in detention had become an unnecessary extravagance and assorted ill with Churchill's self image as the champion of European liberty." "Britain had, within a very few weeks, become, in the name of liberty, a totalitarian

state."

Despite Churchill's misgivings, when a riot broke out at Peel Concentration Camp because recaptured escapees had been refused food, Churchill - remembering no doubt the medicine he had administered to the miners of Tonypany - proposed arming the camp guards with buckshot and instructions to fire without hesitation.

Lord Swinton, who thought the "fascist scum" should be exiled to St. Helena, emerges as one of the villains of the story. Regarding the sinister goings-on at the notorious interrogation centre Camp 002 (Letchmere House), Professor Simpson writes: "...having persuaded the government of the risk from the Fifth Column MI5 was now desperately trying to find some evidence that it really had existed." So at Letchmere House techniques of psychological torture were devised. Detainees were "...reduced to a state of anxiety in which they had little idea what was going to become of them. There was mention of firing parties and hanging..." It is hardly surprising that some who were sent there afterwards became mentally unbalanced and at least two of them, Jim Battersby and Paul Jeeves, later committed suicide.

Survivors of 18B and their families are still traumatized. On page 243 the author writes: "I have myself spoken to an individual of some prominence in public life whose father was detained and soon released. His sister can still recall the tauntings at school, and to this day the detention hangs like a cloud over the family. Family anxieties persist; numerous relatives



OUR REVIEWER PROFESSOR BRIAN SIMPSON has taught at universities throughout the world and published many books and articles during his distinguished career. His knowledge now extends to British political prisoners and his book breaks the 50-year wall of silence on the injustice of political imprisonment in Britain in World War II. He is currently Charles F. and Edith J. Clyne Professor of Law at the University of Michigan Law School.

OUR REVIEWER LEONARD WISE is also well-versed on British political prisoners. He was one of them.

He was in 1936 Leader of the under 17s Blackshirt Cadets and later British Union District Leader, Leytonstone. He was also a frequent contributor to *Black-shirt* and *Action*. Detained from 1940-42 he was the 'permitted' to join RAF in which he served four years, an example of the political corruption that in 1940 incarcerated Mosley's men as 'potential traitors'

have attempted over the years to discover from the Home Office information about detainees; they have had virtually no success."

Conditions in many of the prisons in which 18Bs were held were appalling. At Walton Jail 649 were thrown into cells in the former women's wing which had been derelict for nine years. There they were locked up for 23½ hours a day in solitary confinement.

For surviving veterans of British Union pages 256 and 257 are likely to be the most fascinating in the entire book. Professor Simpson describes how hundreds of depressed and demoralised men, encouraged by the irrepressible Charlie Watts, recovered their spirits. At Ascot Concentration Camp Watts encouraged British Union members to commemorate the party's October 1932 foundation by a ceremony of speeches, the singing of Ralph Dawson's "Hymn to Britain", Frank Wiseman's "British Battle Song", the marching song "Britain Awake" and a toast to their absent Leader. This was followed by an Armistice Day Parade of Ex-Servicemen at which detainees proudly displayed their medals which ranged from those awarded during the South African War to the DSOs, DFCs, DCMs and MCs of the Great War. Mosley's Birthday was celebrated by some 230 British Union detainees who saluted a portrait of the Leader. "No picture, sketch or photograph has ever brought a more spontaneous burst of cheering" recorded Hendon BUS

Clement Hill (who contracted TB in detention and after release was to die from septicæmia after an operation in Milford Hospital. Ed.)

"So it was that the more dedicated of the BU detainees regained their *esprit de corps*" wrote Professor Simpson. "There is absolutely nothing to equal persecution for consolidating ideological belief."

"After the war had ended an attempt was made by Sir John Mellor and Richard Stokes to persuade the Home Office to provide former detainees with a chance to clear their names before a court of law, or to provide the evidence upon which they had been detained, but this was refused."

British Officialdom's paranoid obsession with maintaining secrecy has resulted in the destruction of "about 99 per cent of public records dealing with detention". Of the records that survive, access to most is still refused - even to the likes of Professor Simpson.

Perhaps we should not be too surprised: detainees records were under the control of a well-known MI5 Officer - the Soviet spy Anthony Blunt. Professor Simpson concludes that between 1939 and 1945 Parliament was unable to exercise proper supervision over the security service and that the judges washed their hands of individual responsibility. He suggests it is time Russia's *glasnost* spread to Britain.

If ever a country needed a Freedom of Information Act.....

18B Detention Without Trial

THE EMERGING TRUTH

PROFESSOR SIMPSON's study of Defence Regulation 18B contains many revealing and perceptive passages and we publish just a short selection. All readers of COMRADE are urged to order this important book from their local bookshop or public library NOW!

In the Highest Degree Odious: Clarendon/OUP, £35)

● **Page 164:** "Once the BU detentions began M15 would naturally seek evidence of a conspiracy of the Right, both to justify what had been done and to build upon it; there is abundant evidence that they did this, but came up with nothing."

● **Page 234/5:** "On arrival at the prison there were the pseudo-sanitary rituals of degradation - the bath and the baring of the privy parts; some at Walton Prison were simply made to step in and out of an empty bath to keep the record straight. Thus cleansed the detainees were ready for the bugs which inhabited the prison."

● **Page 252:** "The sense of injustice was aggravated by the stigma of disloyalty. This particularly outraged those members of BU, the great majority, who conceived themselves to be intensely patriotic: patriotism was central to the ideology of fascism."

● **Page 275:** "Birkett's predicament was made worse by fear that Mosley, who had won their last encounter" (in High Court), "might make him and his committee look both dishonest and ridiculous."

● **Page 279:** "Given Birkett's character, it is unlikely that he would have been happy about using evidence obtained by third-degree methods; probably these interrogations were undertaken by M15 in a desperate effort to redeem a reputation which must have been severely tarnished by inability to come up with a good case against Mosley and BU."

● **Page 285:** "The cumulative effect of M15's mistakes and unfounded suspicions was to confirm Birkett and his colleagues in the belief, formed before of May 1940, that M15 was illiberal, disorganised and incompetent.... Any residual confidence in M15 must have vanished when Birkett and his colleagues realised, as they must have done in October 1940, if not much earlier, that the organised Fifth Column, in the name of which the number of 18B detainees had risen from just over 100 to around 1,500, and the aliens to 28,000, or so, was, and always had been, a baseless myth."

● **Page 285:** "It is significant, however, that the available records do not fully document a single case of mistaken identity, not a single case of extreme inhumanity, though there certainly were such cases... For example G Palmer Thomson, detained when terminally ill with cancer of the throat."

● **Page 307:** "It is intolerable that men who are not charged with any crime, and have not committed no crime, should be taken from prison to prison handcuffed, and left in solitary confinement for most of the 24 hours" (quotation from the courageous and dogged Oswald Hickson - about the only lawyer to emerge with any credit for his behaviour over 18B)

● **Page 379:** Professor Simpson quotes from a radio broadcast made by Lord Simon in which Simon claimed that in England there existed: "a fifth freedom without



BRITISH UNION POLITICAL PRISONERS at Peveril Concentration Camp, Isle of Man in 1942. L to R: Gannon, Windsor, Longfellow, Bunting, Hamley, Cunningham, Rev. Yate-Allen, Frith, State-Gardner and Brocklebank. Reg Windsor had suffered M15s psychological interrogation centre at Latchmere House, Ham Common and died a year after release. Walter Longfellow, also of Leeds, was to be released with TB and died three months later.

which no country could truly claim to enjoy liberty. That was the freedom of every citizen, however poor, however uninfluential, however unpopular, however wrongheaded, to appeal to the law and the Courts to protect him from injury or insult, even though the wrong man was committed by the misuse of official power."

Which, as put by Professor Simpson in his introductory remarks to this 1942 broadcast:

"...as if to give final confirmation to the view that there is no limit to the hypocrisy of which lawyers are capable."

● **Page 383:** "...people who are interned may be there for years, with their homes gone, their business ruined, their children handicapped in their education, and with a sense of bitterness which enforced detention must inevitably bring to the person detained." - Norman Birkett.

● **Page 392:** "In his *Finest Hour*, the volume of his history which covers 1940, Churchill states categorically that "No Fifth Column existed in Britain."

● **Page 402:** "Any person known to have been detained during the war under 18B will be a marked man." - J.W. Morris, (Advisory Board Chairman)

● **Page 410:** "You can never really trust security services, for they are in the business of constructing threats to security, and the weaker the evidence the more sinister the threat is thought to be. And the mechanisms which insulate them from public accountability contribute to their

unreliability..."

● **Page 410:** "On the death of the baby daughter (born in detention) we applied to the Home Office for her burial at her native town where others of the family are interred. Permission was granted only on the condition that we undertook the whole expense. As detention for more than a year and a half had deprived us of livelihood and earning capacity we have only been able to make arrangements to pay for the burial of our child by selling some of the last remains of our property."

(Statement by W.E. Birch of Norwich, Peveril Camp, Isle of Man, 20 November 1941)"

Page 120:

"...some of those attracted to the new movement did not simply believe that society was in a state of crisis, for which new ideas and institutions of the kind I have outlined were needed. They also had a mystical belief: with new and appropriate institutions, a new form of mankind would develop, a superman to inherit the new world which was to replace the old..."

The vast majority of those men and women so unjustly penalized as suggested in Professor Simpson's book have now gone, as are their comrades who marched with them towards that vision. Only a handful now remains.

But that vision remains with us, a legacy they left to future generations.

And never more was it needed than NOW!

COMRADE
SAID IT
FIRST

COMRADE
18B FILES REVEAL
46 YR OLD COVER-UP
BRITISH UNION VINDICATED
Comrade
April 1987

COMRADE
MISSING FILES
SCANDAL
Comrade
March 1987

COMRADE
COVER-UP
INCORPORATED
Comrade
April 1987

COMRADE
June/July 1990
THE HELL OF
HAM COMMON
By JOHN CHRISTIAN
seen from
Dutchess

FRIENDS OF O.M.

Aims and Achievements

BY GORDON BECKWELL

CALLED TOGETHER by East London Mosley stalwarts FRED and SID BAILEY, chosen by OM for the Mosley Directorate to run his Movement after his death, several old comrades met, in 1982, in a small upper room of a London pub, determined to ensure that a Commemoration function would be held every year, and a non-politically active association formed to bind together all those who through the years had supported Mosley in his long march.

Thus Friends of O.M. was born and the first Commemoration function, a Buffet supper in an East London pub held in November 1982.

There gathered a small number of old comrades, and with the air vibrant with the personality of O.M. and his large portrait looking down from the wall, hands were warmly clasped and the old songs sung. At the end of the night, if they had not known before, for them, it was Forever Mosley.

As news of FOM spread and old Mosley supporters made contact it became necessary to spread the annual function to hotels in Central London, becoming the Commemoration Dinner. A second annual gathering was also founded - the May Buffet, to celebrate British Union Day. Reunion Buffets have

also been held in some provincial centers.

In 1986 the demand for more contact from increasing numbers of old comrades became pressing and production of COMRADE began. Planned originally to be just an internal newsletter it expanded to being a vehicle for putting on record the true story of the Mosley Movement to counter the campaign of political deceit carried out against it for over 60 years, and is now widely respected in areas outside the area of dedicated Mosleyites. An example is Comrade's acknowledgment as a source in the important book by Professor Simpson reviewed in this issue.

This last development has led to a further role for FOM which involves giving assistance in depth to historians, university lecturers and undergraduate and postgraduate students engaged in studies into different aspects of Mosley thought and activity, an area which has been expanding over the last decade.

A further task involves the collection and preservation of all material relating to Oswald Mosley, the New Party, British Union, and Union Movement in public and private archives where it can be made available for study by bona fide researchers. This includes sound recordings, moving



The 1986 COMMEMORATION Dinner: Lady Mosley with LtoR: Fr. Brocard Sewell, Sid Bailey, Ernst Keller, Fred Bailey, Ronald Creasy, Mike Quill and Dan Hamston

film, photography, books, publications, unpublished biographies, the political literature of Mosley's Movements and the recording on cassette of interviews with former Blackshirts.

Important examples of this work are the compilation of a full copy of Richard Reynell Bellamy's massive history of British Union authorised by Mosley and its deposit in 1992 in an English university; the donation of the only known complete set of BU/UM branch correspondence files - the Saunders Papers to a university library; the acquisition of a complete Honour Standard of the British Union, and the publication of the only complete autobiography by a rank-and-file Mosley man, Blackshirts and Roses, (1990) by the late John Chamley.

FOM has also issued on audio cassette COMRADES IN STRUGGLE (1989), SPEAKING FOR MOSLEY/ANDREW KERSHAW (1992) and MOSLEY SPEAKS (1992).

FOM has no formal membership and COMRADE is supplied without subscription to all former Mosley supporters who register on our mailing list; those engaged in academic or literary re-

search into the subject, and the increasing number of younger born too late to have been members but who show genuine interest in Mosley's ideas. The financing of FOM and COMRADE is borne by our readers with voluntary donations and we take it that the work we do is fully appreciated as we have not had to break our policy of not soliciting funding COMRADE's seven year history.

Although COMRADE comments on current affairs it is not FOM's purpose to become involved in political campaigning.

It exists, through COMRADE and other means to perpetuate that unique Mosleyite bond of brotherhood, and expose for future generations the falsehoods built up against Mosley and his supporters through half-a-century. By their and our example we deliberately plant the seed for the new generations who by their own renaissance can build a nobler society out of the struggles and sacrifice of Mosley's men.

We stake our trust in the sentiment expressed long ago by Oswald Mosley:

**"THE SPIRIT LIVES...
THE REST WILL FOLLOW"**



WITH these inspiring words of OSWALD MOSLEY, that greatest of Englishmen, challenging the winds of Destiny - warning of that 'long, slow crumbling' into final decay of our Island race - Friends of O.M. leads its first Newsletter and proclaims its purpose as a reason for existence.

Inspired by the ever-present undefeated spirit of MOSLEY, a few of his old comrades formed Friends of O.M. three years ago for the immediate purpose of reuniting old friends at social gatherings....

We do not currently engage in political activity but feel and urge, and believe it to be in pursuit of Mosley's purpose, to meet and share in that spirit of Brotherhood that he inspired to great effort through successive generations.

All old comrades, true, tied and tested in the life-long march with Mos-

ley, are now needed 'to hold the line' for those new generations - and we hear their whispers in the winds - who will one day feel the need to look back for a message of help from the past, and with new clear sight see the majesty of Mosley's challenge with those 'strange disturbing men' who rallied to his call.

We that are left - now in the autumn of our lives - are bound in comradeship, and in a debt of honour to those early Blackshirts, many no longer with us, who lit the flame that still lights the way ahead towards the

survival through renaissance of the British and European peoples.

With the going down of the sun, and in eternal union with those who have gone before, we make this final contribution to Mosley the Man, and to those ideals for which he and so many fought and suffered, and which history might one day record to have been even greater than that made with the crusading eagerness and joyous laughter of our bursting youth, with the Godlike Mosley by our side.

And that "They have conquered nevertheless."

The Commemoration Dinner

"HOW I wish OM was here - just the sort of person we need at present with Britain dragging its feet over a United Europe to which we must all remain faithful!"

Lady Mosley was thanking everybody for coming to the 1992 Commemoration Dinner held at a London hotel on November 14 when old comrades, friends old and new and guests from home and overseas gathered in an atmosphere which has become unique to the annual occasion the ever presence of that greatest of Englishmen and Europeans - Oswald Mosley.

Lady Mosley then said she was going to do something unheard of and be unkind about the guest speaker Professor Roy MacGregor-Hastie. Some years ago he had said in a book that Mosley had planned to march on London like Mussolini had marched on Rome in black shirts 'of impeccable satin'. "We can accept the Black but not the Satin" she said. "The idea behind the black shirt was that it was cheap so that all could afford it." Early members of British Union could confirm this though she doubted if there were any present. She was most agreeably surprised when two or three hands were immediately raised!

Professor MacGregor-Hastie said in reply to Lady Mosley's criticism of his 1963 biography of Mussolini, *The Day of the Lion*, that he had been criticised all his life but to be done so by such a distinguished person was an honour. In defence he could only claim that he was very young and inexperienced at the time and accepted the criticism willingly. He was writing a new book on OM's life and he promised: "No hint of satin!"

"OM was really a great man" he continued. He had come to that conclusion years ago when contributing to *The European*. "By comparison what a miserable lot world leaders are today. Italy, for example, has discovered a new form of democracy. Since the end of the war they had had 45 different Governments, so everybody sooner or later will be President!. Today the chickens are coming home to roost exactly as OM had predicted years ago. The world economy was a cause for great pessimism. I can only hope that some of Mosley's ideas are taken up. OM always listened to everybody, he was never dogmatic. The mismanagement of the European economy is a consequence of shortsightedness and selfishness. It was no good waiting for recovery just to happen. We must think our way through our own problems using the works of

OM. It seems perfectly obvious that political parties are finished. They are as outdated as the stagecoach. They have achieved nothing and there is no difference between any of them. The only way to make this point would be for a mass abstention at the next election."

Dan Hamston followed with "We have come together to commemorate the greatest political genius this country has ever produced - OM - and the foundation of his first Movement."

He went on to discuss the current political situation. We were not living through a recession but a deep slump - 100,000 people were that night living on the streets - this is the state the old gang politicians had got us into - OM's pre-war policy could have saved Britain from the Hungry Thirties and the Second World War - today the elected Government does not rule Britain but the unelected markets presided over by international moneylenders and currency speculators. "This was not DEMOCRACY but DEMOCRACY." Black Wednesday had been blamed on the Germans instead of the real cause: the ineptitude of our own politicians - the answer to our problems can only be as part of a self-contained European economy with a wage-price mechanism to equate supply and demand insulated against the cheap-labour overseas competition - OM was right after the war when he said "We must make Europe" - what does Europe import from the USA or Far East that we couldn't produce ourselves? - the genius of British invention that produced radar and jet propulsion has nothing to fear from standing on its own feet - the extension of our patriotism into Europe was something to be profoundly proud of - "I am not scared to call the French, Italians, Germans, Dutch and Scandinavians my Brothers."

We have won every war we fought of been on the winning side, from the Boer war to the Gulf War but have lost the peace every time.

Why? Petty party politics was the answer. In war the best do the fighting and in peace the worst do the governing."

A change of system to solve our problems is desperately needed. Government must control finance not the reverse - and the people must control the Government. He concluded: "My beloved country CAN recover - I have just one overwhelming ambition - to let my fellow countrymen know how they have been robbed by the financial establishment of this country, and robbed of the genius of O.M."

Michael Quill gave a special welcome on this special occasion of the 60th Anniversary of the foundation of British Union to several older comrades who were present and who had participated in those stirring times. He concluded the speeches by saying that as the 60th Anniversary passes, "Britain will rise again. Lies are hard to overcome but do not let 'them' get away with it. Tell them that Fascism was a noble creed and meant something quite different then that it has been twisted to become now. Remind them that the Italian Charter of Labour pre-dated the EC Social Charter by some 60 years and among the Fascist 'inventions' it contained for the protection of people was the introduction for the first time of redundancy payments. So when they use 'Fascist' as a term of abuse, although we have long since moved beyond the confines of that creed, tell them it was a belief that tens of thousands of British men and women were, and those that are still left are, intensely proud."

Desmond Irvine spoke of 60 years ago when Oswald Mosley founded British Union with a small group of men in an upstairs room - a Movement

that was to speak for the Dead Battalions of the First World War from which it had sprung and in which OM had served.

A friend of OM in the Royal Flying Corps in that war was Lance George Hawker VC who fought several air duels with Baron Von Richtofen and was eventually killed in action. "Today I was over enemy lines with Oswald Mosley" was a note he left to be recorded in his biography.

"Mosley understood the necessity to prevent war another war with Germany and this was a central platform of his inter-war policy" he continued. "He had the courage to stand alone against the corrupt political parties which denied him access to the radio and saw to it that his meetings were only reported with abuse." He reminded those present that Mosley first put forward the idea of close European co-operation before the war - in an article in 1937, the first modern expression of European Unity.

The Second World War was fought to stop Germans in Danzig and the Polish Corridor from joining Germany proper. It was a moneylenders war fought on behalf of bankers and international finance. The necessity today was for Europe to work together. "In remembrance of all this we are gathered here tonight".

JOHN BENSON

● Dr. Roy MacGregor-Hastie is Professor of Social History at Osaka Gakuin University, Japan, currently seconded for two years as Director General of France based East Asia Foundation.

In addition to *The Day of the Lion* he has written a number of books which include biographies of Popes John and Paul, Khrushchev and Mao-Tse-Tung.

WELCOME TO ACTION READERS

WITH THIS ISSUE "Comrade" takes aboard, and bids welcome to all the subscribers to "Action" who are not already on our mailing list and "Comrade" incorporates "Action", and "Union" in its title by an agreement with Sanctuary Press Ltd.

My old friend Robert Row who has edited both papers since the death of Raven Thomson in 1955 has found that following the death of Sanctuary Press and Action Society secretary Jeffrey Ham last year, and in prevailing conditions it is no longer appropriate to continue "Action" in its past form.

I am pleased to say that Bob Row has agreed to contribute to "Comrade" and in a concluding letter to "Action" readers he writes:

"The world is currently passing through a period of great political flux and I believe that it is important that the Mosley point of view should continue to be made known to an increasing number of interested people."

As always, our work continues."

JOHN CHRISTIAN

IN MEMORIAM

"Hark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages.
Britain listens and rejoices,
Gazing on Tradition's pages..."

ADAMSON, John: former 2nd Bn Durham L/Inf: South Shields British Union; from heart disease accelerated by gas and wounds in action Great War; at 47 he 'died as honourably as if killed in action' said coroner.

December 1934

AITKEN, Andrew: P/Off RAF; early BU member; in flying accident, Sussex. BU RAF Sdn/Ldr brother **LIGNEL** later killed in action off Calais 1941.

December 1917

ALLEN, Constance Mary CBE: ex-suffragette and co-founder first women's police force Great War; Head Womens Auxiliary Service 1914-40; British Union; under 188 house detention World War 2; Union Movement.

December 1964

BAILEY, John Fraser: Mendon Br. British Union.

20 December 1936

BAILEY, Jack: Bethnal Green British Union and Union Movement; father of FOMs Fred and Sid; at 82.

19 January 1965

BALL, Eric: British Union District Ldr, Epping, 1938; served Royal Navy 1940-46; At 75 in West Country

8 January 1992

BECKETT, Mrs Joe: wife of former English Heavy Wt. Boxing Champ; like Joe, Br. Union, 188 Political Prisoner - in Holloway Gaol, and Union Movement.

12 December 1952

BIRD, Mr A.J.: former Inspector of Schools, Middlesex, and Principle Kilburn Polytechnic; Kilburn British Union.

January 1939

BOLGER, Mr A.E.: Ealing British Union & Union Movement.

December 1976

BRAY, Bill: D/Tr Birmingham Central, and Handsworth Br. British Union; 188 Political Prisoner

3 December 1988

BROWN, Prof. A.E. MA LLB: Prof. International Law, Calcutta, Cambridge British Union.

6 January 1939

CHARLEY, John: British Union D/Ldr Hull & Parl. Cand. Hull East, Cty. Prop. agenda Off. Yorks; 188 Political Prisoner; Union Movement. Author *Black-shirts and Roses* publ. 1990 after his death.

28 December 1988

COKER, Mrs. BU and UM: mother of UM Walthamstow Br. Leader Ernest Coker.

January 1950

CORBIN, Peter: British Union speaker, Salisbury

January 1981

D'ALESSIO, Ron: First British D/Ldr Plymouth, later Cheltenham; 188 political Prisoner.

18 January 1987

DOWDY, Mrs L.A.: wife of John, Brit. Union Parl. Cand. Evesham.

January 1976

DOWFIELD, K.F. 'Ken': Epping British Union; 188 Political Prisoner.

December 1986

ELAM, Dudley: Brit. Union's elderly receptionist at Westminster HQ; 188 Political Prisoner contributing to his death; husband of ex-suffragette Nora Elam, BU Parl. Cand. Northampton, also 188 Political Prisoner in Holloway Gaol.

December 1948

EVANS, Mrs Dorothy: widow of *Billy*, BU & UM, Upminster and Sth. London.

15 January 1991

FITT, Bill: British Union Epping Branch speaker.

30 January 1988

FRANCIS-HAWKINS, Neil: British Union pioneer member, later Dir. General; 188 Political Prisoner in Brixton Gaol leading to early death at 43.

25 December 1950

GOOD, Anne: British Union and Union Movement speaker; 188 Political Prisoner. Leader's secretary Union Movement.

Early 1979

GRANT of Shoreditch: Father of family BU supporters.

December 1948

HANSELL, Mrs. Florence: Bethnal Green Brit. Union and Union Movement; wartime collector for 188 Detainees Fund.

December 1950

HILL, W.M.: early member and part founder Taunton Branch British Union; father of two Blackshirt sons.

January 1938

HOLMAN, Percy: Southampton BU & UM; in road accident.

31 December 1977

JEBB, Ralph Gladwyn: explorer, pearl fisherman; British Union D/Ldr Salisbury, Prop. Off. Wilts, Dist. & Reg. Inspector Wessex, Parl. Cand. Dorset West, BU Gold Distinction, 188 Political Prisoner: At 87 in Marbella, Spain.

28 January 1978

KITCHEN, Mrs Sabine: Mother of Union Movement and FOMs Ken of Leamington Spa.

8 December 1975

LINGGLET, Sidney: East Ham British Union; severely wounded East Surrey's, Italy, 1943; brother of BU E/Ham D/Tr., UM & FOMs John.

December 1986

MARSON, Arthur: Hull British Union; 188 Political Prisoner: At 71 in Cologne where he had lived for 30 years.

23 December 1990

PELLING, Mrs Clare: former active member and wife of British Union Epping Branch District Ldr 1938-40; in Lancashire

14 December 1991

PRENTICE, Charles: E/London British Union and Union Movement; husband of Rose, 1961 Union Movement Nat. Womens Org. in Australia.

January 1981

PRICE, Catherine Margaret and Charlie: holder of OM Service Distinction, parents of British Union's and Union Movement's Hackney Branch Organizer and wife Flo, both 188 Political Prisoners: Charlie one of East London's earliest BU members.

January 1952 and January 1955

RAE, H.O.: Walthamstow Union Movement.

24 January 1951

ROBERTS, John: Huntingdon; late Ipswich British Union & UM.

December 1954

SCORE, Mr R.G.: father of Bournemouth Br. Union D/Ldr Score

13 January 1940

STEWART, Fred: A/D/L Sales Harrow British Union.

31 December 1936

SUTHERLAND, Mrs M.A. 'Ma': Loyal Mosley supporter, friend and confidant of many British Union East London supporters in her Stepeney cafe, and in Union Movement before her retirement to Norfolk.

January 1975

VALZUANI, Espaminodes 'Pam': well-known London British Union member and p.p. Holborn Distributing Co.; organiser 'Action' street and newsagent sales; provided office for wartime 188 Detainees Aid Fund; at 81

1 January 1959

VERDAN-ROE, Sir Allott: Early flying pioneer; founder of AVRO; lost 2 sons in flying ops WW2; HQ Branch British Union. At 80.

31 December 1984

WALSH, Mrs Glad: Member Limehouse British Union; Temp D/L 1940; occasional contributor to Comrade in verse.

31 December 1990

WILKINSON, Edmund 'Ned': New Party, British Union, Manchester and HQ; lost eye in 'battle of Stockton-on-Tees' 1933; Pioneer Corps WW2; brother of John.

31 December 1984

WILLIAMSON, Hugh Ross: Playright, biographer and author incl. *Who is for Liberty*, 1939; 1930s contributor to *Action* when prominent Labour Party member; a good friend of Mosley Movement.

January 1978

WOODWARD L.A.: Dorset West British Union.

28 January 1938

WYNN, John: TV activist and Action British Union.

11 December 1937

WYNE, Mrs: Wallasey British Union and Union Movement.

December 1954

YEATS-BROWN, Francis, DFC: 5th Lancers, Indian Army & Royal Flying Corps; author *Bengal Lancer*; HQ Branch British Union.

10 December 1944

OBITUARIES

Frank Jermy

WE REPORT the death in London in November of old comrade **FRANK JERMY** who if he could have chosen it would not have had another



day - the Leader's Birthday.

Frank was British Union District Leader of Kidderminster until he joined the RANC in 1940.

But not for long. After seven weeks he was arrested and joined the ranks of Britain's Political Prisoners.

After the war he joined Union Movement and in recent years was a regular attendee at FOM functions until he suffered a stroke two years ago, leaving him confined to his chair.

Mrs Beryl Swan

WE OFFER our deepest sympathy to **ARTHUR SWAN** on the death in October of his **BERYL** to whom he had been married 54 years.

Arthur was British Union District Treasurer of Lowestoft until becoming a British Political Prisoner in 1940. He was Camp Leader at Ascot Concentration Camp.

3 < EIGHTY UP!

wide culture and great humanity" and he 'never heard him say in private a harsh word about any of his political opponents, in spite of three and a half years' imprisonment without trial, no charges of any offence having been brought against him. His 'crime', a new one in Britain, had been simply that of trying to prevent the outbreak of a new war in 1939, and continuing to advocate a negotiated settlement after it had broken out."

In concluding his autobiography, *Father Brocard*, "at the end of one's life", asks himself the uncomfortable question: "what one has achieved in the time one has been given?" He takes comfort in some words from *To the Lighthouse*: "But the number of men who make a definite contribution to anything whatsoever is very small", and submits that "Perhaps my own modest contribution has been to literature, in the form of biographies or memoirs of some men and women of merit who have been overlooked or forgotten..."

Auguri! as the Italians say, for 1993, Father Brocard!

• The Habit of a Lifetime: by Brocard Sewell: (Tabb House, 7 Church Street, Padstow, PL28 8BG £18.95

Old Comrades



1993

Note the dates

May Day Buffet

Saturday, May 8
Commemoration
Dinner

Saturday, November 13

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COMRADE

Incorporating ACTION and UNION

Newsletter of Friends of O.M.

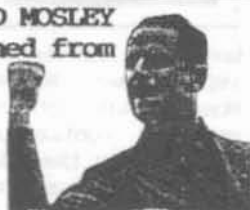


'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'

No.38

February-April 1993

IT HAS TAKEN 60-odd years for the warnings of OSWALD MOSLEY to come to fruition...he first warned when he resigned from government in revolt against the muddling through of the political establishment and its out-of-date system. His case could not be faulted. He knew, that sooner or later, and he never stopped warning, that the crisis would come. But the politicians continued to muddle on



Britain wrecked by its politicians
Six decades of muddling through has

PAUPERED BRITAIN

By
Robert
Row

'A plague on both your Houses'

MANY governments have blundered into depressions like dumb cattle. Some have muddled themselves into a slump almost as if they had planned it. But there have been few like JOHN MAJOR's wretched crew who have completely lost control of what they were trying to do. After inflicting mass unemployment they now give us higher taxes.

ree with each other - or him. But even if they managed to reach one conclusion, how could they solve Lamont's latest problem?

Around £3 million unemployed, its cost driving social security spending up to £80 billion annually. Two years of Mr Major's slump have impoverished the country, forcing the Government into massive borrowing: 37 billion this year and at least £44 billion next year. It could be nearer £50 billion judging by the way the Tories have let unemployment rip.

Lamont now raises taxes to avoid getting any deeper into the moneylenders' deadly grip, but it is too late for that. Out of this the usury has to be paid for past borrowing.

His problem is that to raise taxes too much means the final farewell to that current cliché "green shoots of recovery". A consumer-led recovery is not on when consumers are loaded with heavier taxation. This for Lamont is Catch 22 with a vengeance.

So the Government tries to back out of the trap by

➔2

A Shocker from Little Rock



Clinton:
Another
Hoover?

IT IS SAID that history never repeats itself. Like Churchill's special relationships with America, it is one of the comforting thoughts that let our MPs sleep soundly at night. But if President Clinton goes on as

Harassed Chancellor NORMAN LAMONT had a panel of independent economists to help him with his March Budget, the so-called "seven wise men". Christ had three wise men but Lamont needs seven, and being independent they rarely agree

he is doing, some rude shocks lie in store.

Media-men, like the politicians, place great trust in the 'special relationship'. One would think the recent American election had happened here. When Clinton won, the BBC had his victory speech live from Little Rock half-a-dozen times next day. One British newspaper even announced "he's our president as well" and the Labour Party is outdoing them all

in flattery. It is busy 'Clintonising' itself!

What, however, has he been doing? His programme for economic revival is a stiff dose of taxes for all his millionaires and even 'Middle America'. But if a lot of Americans are going to pay, so will those countries who sell to America. For a start he has a big protectionist 'hit list' which especially hits British trade.

➔3

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

BROOKER, Cpl. A.A.J.: 2nd Bn Black Watch; Dorset British Union: age 23: killed in action Burma 5 April 1944: Remembered on Rangoon Memorial.

BROOKER, Cpl. C.G.: 90 Field Regt RA after 188 British Political Prisoner 1940-42: Embler Bn. British Union: died on P.O.W. long march 8 March 1945: Remembered on Cassino Memorial, Italy.

EAST, Lt. Philip: 5th Bn Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders; Leytonstone British Union: age 26: killed in action Tunisia 24 April 1943. Lies in Medjer-el-Bab War Cemetery, Tunisia.

FOGG, Pte. James: 1st Bn E/Lance Regt Manchester British Union: killed in action, Cleve, Germany 11 February 1945: Buried Reichswald Forest War Cemetery: Age 26.

JONES, Cpl. F.R.F.: 16th Bn 14th Punjab Regt; Horwood Bn. British Union: age 22: killed in action Singapore 11 February 1942: Remembered Kranji War Cemetery, Singapore.

MILLNER, Cpl. Albert D.: 2nd Bn Queen's Royal Regt (West Surrey): age 28: N/E Bethnal Green Branch British Union: killed in action Anzio beachhead 22 February 1944: Remembered Cassino Memorial, Italy.

MITCHELL, Maj. The Hon. Tom:

KRRC: HQ 1st Bn British Union: brother of Lady Mosley: killed in action Burma 4 April 1945. Lies in Taunggyan War Cemetery, Rangoon.

WATKINS, Sqn/Ldr Geoff:

DSO DEC: RNR: 263 Sqn: Leeds Branch British Union and former British Union West Riding Transport Officer: age 28: first RAF pilot with contact lenses: missing on operations off Guernsey on 22 February 1944: Remembered on Runnymede Air Force Memorial.

WATSON, A/B Cyril: Royal Navy: Central Leeds Bn. British Union: age 21: killed in action HMS Hardy, Narvik, April 10 1940: Remembered on Plymouth Naval Memorial

IN JANUARY 1936 the Propaganda Officers of 400 BUF branches received instructions from party headquarters that a very important book would shortly be published and they should form study groups to discuss it. The book was Keynes' General Theory of Employment, Interest and Money - a work described by some of the professional economists who reviewed it as being difficult to comprehend! The reason the professionals found it heavy going was because it challenged everything that had been taught about investment and saving since Adam Smith's Wealth of Nations in 1776. For lesser mortals however much of what Keynes was saying seemed plain commonsense.

But how could BUF's Directorate have known that Keynes' forthcoming

BACK IN FASHION

J.M. Keynes



by LEONARD WISE

book was of outstanding importance? Keynes and Mosley were not in close personal contact as they had been in the 1920s. It is however just possible that Keynes had let Mosley see the manuscript or proofs. A more likely explanation is that Sir Roy Harrod (who also held unorthodox views, especially on monetary economics and who advised both Keynes and Mosley) had alerted Mosley to the General

Theory's worth.

As a Liberal Keynes should have been opposed to restrictions on trade. Liberal supporters of Free Trade did not believe that mass unemployment could be caused by lack of demand because the 'invisible hand' of the market economy always made sure that demand rises to absorb output. They were unable to explain the 1930s phenomenon of Poverty (and mass unemployment) in the

midst of Plenty.

The BUF did not believe that the Liberal economic system had an automatic tendency to produce full employment. Low interest rates and public investment were its proposed keys to future prosperity.

Keynes was generous enough to pay a tribute to the General Theory to those "Credit Cranks" whose arguments he had earlier dismissed out of hand, mentioning in particular J.A. Hobson.

With unemployment now rising to an estimated 3½ million, and a repetition of the Nineteen Thirties Depression becoming more likely with each passing day, readers (particularly any BUF veterans who remember the instructions to purchase a copy of The General Theory for five shillings!) are strongly recommended to study Professor Robert Skidelsky's magisterial biography of Keynes - recently completely and widely reviewed.

1 PAUPERED BRITAIN

big spending cuts. A first class row is going on in defence circles as millions are taken from the Navy and RAF to give the Army more infantry battalions. But one reason why Britain has such huge defence spending is the fatuous Tory insistence on "playing a world role" which in practice means the lap-dog trot behind America. A half-bankrupt island cannot play the role of a great empire.

They are going mad with privatisation schemes as well. Sell off the roads, the railways, the mines, anything that raises cash. It must be desperate when the Treasury has a beady eye on our national art treasures.

But when Tories get into a real panic they will flog anything from our cultural heritage to British greatness - as they pawned the British Empire to America to raise the wherewithal to fight the unnecessary and disastrous - to Britain - Second World War.

Thatcher legacy killed the patient

Most of the current problems however are the legacy of Lady Thatcher. Her first government was an example of the second way of doing things, and her bossy confidence as she poured her medicine down the nation's throat suggests she planned it. Taking over in 1979 she put Britain through a

course of riverous deflation. The result was that thousands of firms went bust, over 20 per cent of industrial productive capacity was lost, and unemployment rose to well over 3 million, higher than now.

All this, she said, was necessary to curb the inflation created by Labour. She certainly succeeded (for the time being) and so made her name as the woman who got inflation down when all the men had failed: No-Nonsense Maggy. The immortal gods had bestowed on her one priceless gift and she used it so recklessly that they have refused to smile on any Tory leader since.

As the Thatcher government got a considerable revenue "take" of well over 30 per cent of the value of North Sea production, this enabled it to support 3 million unemployed easily without borrowing or raising general taxes. It was the most comfortable slump Britain had ever known. No wonder Maggie stayed popular.

The gift was North Sea oil which was bubbling and gushing when she came to power. It left her free to hammer Britain's old-fashioned industries without wrecking the economy. Too bad for those that lost their jobs as the nation was sheltered from most of the deflationary effects by the sheer size of the bonanza.

But there was a flaw in

THEIR PART IN BRITAIN'S DECLINE



1979-1990

THATCHER'S LEGACY

Afro-Asian cultures dominating towns and cities in near bust Britain

MAJOR'S LEGACY?

Third World Britain, an island in the North Sea - the 'Sweatshop of Europe'



1990 →

And behind locked doors the old ponder "how" and "why" as crime, rape, perversion and murder stalk the land.

the image of Thatcher's Britain. North Sea oil, immense as it was at the start, was a diminishing asset. New discoveries were made but they could not keep pace with the huge quantity pumped up, refined and exported. This once great source of wealth has now been frittered away, rather like Klondike gold.

The difference is now clear between the slump that Britain's first woman Prime Minister sailed into with such gusto in 1979 and the depression into Major's pathetic crew blundered. She had North Sea oil and he has not. No big bonanza this time to shield the country from the consequences. Madam Thatcher spent it all, that's what. She blew the lot. This time the British people have to pay in higher taxes, deeper debt, ruthless government spending cuts, leading to a host of problems including probably a large body of permanent workless.

It has taken 60-odd years for the warnings of Oswald Mosley to come to fruition.

It was in 1930 that he first warned when he resigned from government in revolt against the muddling through of the political establishment and its out-of-date system. His case could not be faulted. He knew that, sooner or later, and he never stopped warning, that the crisis would come. But the politicians continued to muddle on.

Chamberlain muddled Britain into war. Churchill muddled through the war that in victory deposed the country that once led the world. Attlee, Wilson, Eden and MacMillan played the same old game after the war. Then came Thatcher who finally muddled North Sea oil away.

The British people are now left with little Mr. Major and nothing in the kitty. The price has to be paid for disregarding Mosley for so long.

The Open Eye... of Paul Collins

IF academics such as John Charmley represent a wave of "revisionist" historians, Jacob Colmore was one of the earliest perverters of 20th century British social and political history.

Colmore, also known as John Colmore, sometimes Jacob Comacho, more often Jack Comer, and the Gangland of the 30's, 40's and 50's as Jack Spot, takes his seedy, fetid, and disputably proper place in a new history of London's underworld, "Gangland", by James Morton (Little Brown) £14.99.

Spot, born in Whitechapel of Polish immigrants, is now remembered, if at all, for his rackets. His trade was extortion, perversion of the law of the land that sheltered him, and underpinning all, the exercise of fear.

But Spot also had a political consciousness. In 1955, at the height of his tabloid "revelations", he described in the old *Sunday Chronicle*, how he had prepared to oppose the planned march of Mosley's Blackshirts through Aldgate in 1936 - the occasion that was to go down in history through a prism of specially constructed distortions, as "The Battle of Cable Street."

Spot's answer to a legal procession was the same as his answer to the law at large; find a weapon and a head to smash. "On the day before the procession was due, I went down to an old cabinet maker in Aldgate and asked him to make me a weapon...the old cabinet maker did a beautiful job...a short, turned soda leg, and filled the top, wider end, with lead. I slipped this into a paper carrier bag."

What happened then, says Morton (who placed the march in 1935, a careless detail), relying on Spot's account, was that he "became a local folk hero by leading a Jewish team against Oswald Mosley's Blackshirts".... "According to Spot, he approached Mosley's leading bodyguard, a six foot six all-in-wrestler 'rough-neck', and felled him with a chair leg filled with lead. It was a story on which he traded for the remainder of his working life."

Working life takes on the same subjective meaning as trade, when applied to Spot. Similarly truth. For while Spot almost certainly picked up his weapon, he never got within snarling distance of Mosley. The two forces, Fascist and anti-fascist, were kept apart by the huge police presence, and the only fights that took place followed attacks on Blackshirts as they made their way to the assembly points. The six foot six

wrestler, was of course, a fiction, and Spot's ascension as a "local folk hero", strictly limited in geographical and ethnic terms.

It may also have been of short duration. "The rest of his pre-war career was not as heroic", says Morton, though whether with irony is hard to say. "Certainly he protected the Jewish shopkeepers against Mosley's Blackshirts, but they were obliged to pay up to £10 to ensure their premises were not damaged in the demonstrations."

"In 1937 he was sentenced to six months imprisonment for grievous bodily harm to a Blackshirt during one of the marches through the East End. It was to be the only prison sentence he received in his career. When he was released, he became an enforcer, collecting subscriptions for an East End stall traders fund run by Larry Sooper."

Spot's part in the great War against Fascism was conducted on a similarly high ground. After medical discharge from the Royal Artillery (his theatre of war being Cornwall), Spot went straight to the West End clubs, and then "fearing a prison sentence, fled north to a land where the black market and organised crime were rampant." (Centres of corruption and racketeering at this time were Hull and Leeds, the pre-war stamping grounds of John Charmley. But while that doughty Blackshirt was holed up on the Isle of Man, imprisoned without trial for belonging to a Movement that had campaigned for peace, Spot, brave anti-fascist, was free, at large, and back in his business of crime and extortion.)

After the war fought to make a better world, Spot, was back in London. He saw himself, says Morton, "as a Jewish Godfather in the East End. He left an account of how his version of protection worked: "I didn't have to buy nothing. Every Jewish businessman in London made me clothes, give me money, food, drink, everything. Because I was a legend. I was what they call a legend to the Jews."

Anywhere they had anti-semitic trouble - I was sent for: Manchester, Glasgow, anywhere. Some crook goes into a Jewish shop, says glume clothes and a few quid, the local Rabbi says 'Go down to London and find Jack Spot. Get Jack, he'll know what to do.'

"So they did, and I'd go up and chin a few bastards."

Race course operator Harry White was presumably among those "chinned."

White's "policing" of the courses had been going on for

years, with the local police forces apparently among the satisfied participants.

But Spot was not among those happy to see the arrangements continued.

In January 1947, Spot, accompanied by ten thugs, walked into a drinking club off Piccadilly, where White was drinking with some companions.

Spot walked up to him, records Morton - citing White's account - "You're Yiddified" - meaning he was anti-Jewish. White denied it. He said, 'I have Jewish people among my best friends. Spot wouldn't listen, and hit him with a bottle. As White collapsed in a pool of blood, the rest of Spot's men attacked O'Sullivan and the third man who was employed by White. O'Sullivan was beaten unconscious and pushed into a fire in the corner of the club. The other man was slashed with razors and stabbed in the stomach.'

Wilde said that a man cannot be too careful in the choice of his enemies. Perhaps nothing could be more revealing of the Mosley Movement, than the character of some of its enemies.

● A fact that James Morton seems to have missed is that the *Sunday Chronicle*, in the week following its story of Spot's bravado against Mosley at the 'battle of Cable Street', published an admission that it had been "complete fabrication". We must not be too hard on Morton however for Mosley's biographer, Robert (now Baron) Skidelsky, made the same error in the first edition of *Oswald Mosley*, corrected in later editions.

30 years later, in 1986, an aged Spot was still repeating the story which he "traded for the rest of his working life" - this time in an *Evening Standard* feature. On that occasion *Comrade's* future editor received a personal apology from the editor with an assurance that the original *Sunday Chronicle* fabricated story in the 'Standard's' library had been so marked.

For the ageing Spot perhaps it had been worth 'a bob or two' of which he was possibly in need for he was no longer 'the Gynor' in Soho. In 1956, Billy Hill, the real 'King of the London Underworld' put him down for good with a beating like Spot had reserved for his lesser opponents.

In the interest of historical truth, the *Sunday Chronicle* retraction of 23 January 1955 read: "No attack occurred on Sir Oswald, or the procession. The story of Sir Oswald being attacked is therefore complete fabrication". (B)

1 Shocker from Little Rock

Media-men, like the politicians, place great trust in the 'special relationship'. One would think the recent American election had happened here. When Clinton won, the BBC had his victory speech live from Little Rock half-a-dozen times next day. One British newspaper even announced "he's our president as well" and the Labour Party is outdoing them all in flattery. It is busy 'Clintonising' itself!

Hits British hardest

What, however, has he been doing? His programme for economic revival is a stiff dose of taxes for all his millionaires and even 'Middle America'. But if a lot of Americans are going to pay, so will those countries who sell to America. For a start he has a big protectionist 'hit list' which especially hits British trade.

He also plans heavier taxes for foreign companies in America. These, says the *Times*, will "hit the British the hardest. British companies are the largest foreign investors in America". Too bad for them. They should have invested in Britain instead.

Clinton not our special relation

But it is enough to show that those wishful thinkers who believed in the special relationship are much mistaken. President Clinton is an American Firster, if a very peculiar one, not our special relation.

Depending on how far he goes with protectionism, the shocks could get bigger. History shows that in 1930 the world faced trade depression. President Hoover raised American tariff barriers, just as President Clinton has started to do, and the depressed trade conditions turned into a full-scale world slump for most of the 1930s.

History never repeats itself? On the contrary, Oswald Mosley warned 40 years ago that the 1930s would return. His prediction is being fulfilled with uncanny accuracy as President Clinton begins to act like President Hoover.

THE 'SPIES' BROUGHT IN FROM THE COLD

'DOUBLE-BARRELLED TRAITORS OF 1942'

SPECTATOR 23 January

ONE OF THE last great enigmas of the second world war has been unwrapped this month with the release in the Public Record Office of the files on the Nazi Fifth Column in Britain" began Andrew Roberts under the Spectator's 'Double-Barrelled Traitors' headline in their issue of 23 January. He went on to suggest that "we can finally tell the extent of the danger Britain faced in her darkest hour from people who the authorities feared would aid the Germans should be Britain be invaded".

He had gained the information from 'Suspect List Region 111' compiled by the South Eastern Regional Commander in Tunbridge Wells in 1940, otherwise M15, which named 82 'potential traitors' of which around 20 were named in the article.

We must take his word for it because it would appear that almost as soon as the magazines had reached the newstands, the file had been taken back in to the vaults of the Home Office.

We let the story unfold in the next two pages but would state, as we have been asked, why should we get so interested as only two of those named were Mosley's men?

Quite so, but these men were our fellow-countrymen. They have effectively been found guilty without trial of treachery, when in death they cannot defend their name and Mosley's men were always ready to spring to the defence of their own,

and fifty years later, this remains unchanged, and always will.

And in this case, when the origin of the 'evidence' is the wartime M15 whose activities are now open to question, is another reason why we should try get these dead men justice.

What a coincidence that this file, which if interpreted as if it was message from the Almighty gives M15 a new clean image of efficiency, should be released due to an administrative error shortly after the publication of Professor A.W.B. Simpson's scholarly book "In The Highest Degree Odious", reviewed in the last "Comrade, in which he summarised: "the independent and secret character of M15 enabled it to withhold information and evidence from the Home Office's committee, and to pressure the Home Office into decisions whose merits the Home Office was unable to check, and

for which the Home Office was nevertheless politically responsible." He was referring to the imprisoned Mosley's men but that message still stands for these dead fellow-Britons stigmatised as traitors.

● Andrew Roberts, who is the biographer of Lord Halifax, is one of those young interesting and questioning writers and historians who have made their mark in recent years. We complimented him last year on his "Blackshirts served with distinction in the last war" in the Sunday Telegraph. He tells "Comrade" that he found the file in the 'new file' index during a research visit to the PRO, and we cannot hold him responsible for the Spectator headline. We do feel however that on this occasion he has not extended his investigative mind, and if he should write further on the subject - and it would appear only he is privy to the names of the 'traitorous 82' - he should first read the Simpson book and perhaps he will then be more tolerant to the branded Englishmen after assessing the information's tainted source.

AND SENT BACK!

Riddle of the Nazi files

GOVERNMENT officers have blocked a County Times inquiry into pre-war Nazi sympathisers.

Attempts to see public files, which name 82 suspected fascist ring-leaders in the south east, have been thwarted by Home Office red tape.

Dated March 1942, the Suspect List was recently released for public scrutiny under the Ministry of Home Security's 50 year rule.

But efforts by the County Times to view them this week have been prevented by the Home Office.

Some details came to light in last month's Spectator magazine following an inspection of the files by a journalist.

Among names listed was a former Horsham bank manager called Eric Shuffelbottom, named in last week's County Times.

by Robert Shaw

But when the County Times arranged to visit the Public Records Office in Kew on Monday, an officer said that the papers were no longer available.

Assistant manager Jim Surridge said: "We do not have the files here, they are back at the Home Office."

The Home Office in Queen Anne's Gate in London has so far failed to explain why the files had been withdrawn, and a spokesman dealing with data protection and privacy said they were "looking into it".

Staff at Kew said it was quite routine for files to be requisitioned by the Home Office and it was "just a coincidence" that it happened so soon after news items were published.

"As far as I know, I don't think the files have been retained. The Home Office are using them for administrative purposes," said Nick Forbes.

"This is perfectly within their rights and happens all the time in various departments."

Anne Crawford, press officer at the records office, confirmed yesterday that the files were still at the Home Office.

"Our procedure is to let the department know if people want to see the files," she said. "This particular document has raised a lot of interest from members of the public."

County Times COMMENT

The independent voice of the community.

A skeleton in cupboard

ONCE secret events of the Second World War are now out in the open.

True life undercover heroes have been duly recognised. But, on a more sinister note, the archives are also exposing many a can of worms.

There were Nazi 'collaborators' in the Channel Islands. And a list of 82 people in England whose Nazi sympathies made them prime targets for under cover surveillance.

Among them a Horsham bank manager; a fact that will come as quite a shock to many.

The surprising thing is that Horsham did have an active branch of the British Union of Fascists which urged Britain to form an alliance with Hitler. They operated from an office in Denne Road, held meetings in Market Square and promoted a candidate for Parliament.

The highlight of their era was a visit to Horsham by leader Sir Oswald Mosley whose speech at The Drill Hall in 1939 received a rousing reception. Not long after he was interned by Government with 1,000 others as a risk to national security.

Of course, the majority of Horsham residents opposed them. One famous Market Square gathering attracted a hostile crowd with police intervention.

All that is hard to believe now. But it happened. And the release of sensitive files serves to remind us just how easily a society can drift into extremism.

With the emergence of new Nazi groups in Europe, a democracy must be ever vigilant.

Fascist links revealed after 50 years silence

Nazi secret is exposed

A FORMER Horsham bank manager has been named as one of the leading pre-war Nazi sympathisers in Britain.

Top secret files, just made public under the Ministry of Home Security's 50 year rule, reveal that Eric Shuffelbottom was one of 82 people given high security risk ratings.

Dated March 1942, the "Suspect List" reveals how Special Branch maintained detailed surveillance and even intercepted the mail of potential traitors.

After war broke out, hundreds of members of the British Union of Fascists were interned. The 82 listed suspects managed to escape this fate, but were carefully watched.

Files at the County Times reveal that Horsham did host

pre-war fascist meetings attended by up to 1,000 people including one staged by the notorious fascist union leader Sir Oswald Mosley.

The meetings often degenerated into violence resulting in fights and even fireworks and lit cigarettes being thrown at the stage.

Attempts to track down the fate of Eric Shuffelbottom have proved unsuccessful, so far. Local historians and distinguished Horshamites have been able to shed a little light on the saga.

Bill Sampson, aged 81, from Vale Drive, said, like many other local people, he attended Mosley's rally at the Drill Hall in February 1939 out of curiosity.

"It was packed full but the majority were there because of his reputation. It was well publicised that there were much more to his speeches."

by Robert Shaw

Nazi files dismissed as 'myth'

ANOTHER new twist this week appeared in the growing mystery of 50 year old files on possible Nazi sympathisers.

A former member of Mosley's British Union of Fascists has told the County Times he suspects a disinformation campaign by the Home Office is behind the riddle.

County Times 19 March

The County Times continued that the editor of COMRADE, the newsletter of "Friends of Oswald Mosley" explained when interviewed that he suspected the list of alleged Nazi collaborators seen by the Spectator journalist at the Public Record Office was "all scare and myth". The suggestion that a wartime Horsham bank manager was a Nazi agent was "absolutely laughable". Meanwhile, according to the County Times, Horsham MP Sir Peter Horden was seeking an explanation from the Home Secretary as to why the file released under the 50 year rule has "now disappeared behind closed doors".

It said that COMRADE editor John Christian suspected that the file of alleged wartime Nazi sympathisers had been released specifically in response to the important book *In the Highest Degree Odious* by Prof. A.W.B. Simpson of the University of Michigan, published in December and which "absolutely 'rubbed' most of the activities of M15 during the last war".

As well as being home to a ring of homosexuals and Soviet "moles" like Anthony Blunt, M15 was also shown in the book to be "illiberal, disorganised and incompetent". The list of those suspected by M15 of being potential fifth columnists was therefore made public to try and rescue the intelligence agency's reputation, before it could be subjected to full scrutiny. From personal experience in Fascist circles at the time he cast doubt on the accuracy of the file.

Only one or two names listed in the Spectator article were known to him and he suggested "they were a bunch of English eccentrics and not dangerous in any way.... Even Churchill admitted after the war that there never was a fifth column and the whole thing a myth".

The Spectator report told of one entry on an alleged possible Nazi

collaborator. He told a policeman: Your time's pretty short now. When Hitler has finished with Russia he'll soon put you where you belong, and sooner the better."

Mr Christian had heard such remarks directed against petty officials many times during the war and it bore no relation to possible security risks. Allegations of Nazi sympathies were often levelled by those with a grudge and taken seriously in the fraught wartime atmosphere.

John Christian was not himself detained. He followed Mosley's advice to his supporters by fighting in the British Army. He had been a BUF member from age of 14.

Another Mosley follower, Robert Row, former editor of the 'pro-Mosley' journal ACTION, had written to the County Times on "the controversy sparked by the file".

He said: "Mr Shufflebottom had no connection with the BUF" and "neither Mosley or his members detained under wartime Regulation 18B were ever charged with treasonable activities.

Precisely to the contrary - they were imprisoned without any charge or trial in any English court of law. Indeed, Sir Norman Birkett KC, chairman of the official tribunal which interrogated those imprisoned (he was later a prosecutor at the Nuremberg trials) admitted to Mosley that he and his members were not accused of any treasonable activity".

Mr. Row also mentioned Prof. Simpson's book, commenting "M15 seems to have been run by the Soviet secret police and its files on 'security risks' so much viscious disinformation."

He also wrote of the Mosley meeting in Horsham in February 1939, recalled by a local resident in the County Times of January 29.

He said: "There was no disorder of any kind. Mosley introduced his Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for Horsham, Mr Jorian Jenks, detained under 18B during the war and a leading figure in the Soil Association after the war."

Links with Mosley

A BELATED correction to your lead story of January 29, "Nazi Secret is Exposed" in which your picture of a house at Monks Gate, near Horsham, was captioned "where Fascist leader Sir Oswald Mosley once lived."

Sir Oswald never resided in Sussex and the house was the home at one time of Sir Oswald's brother John who was never involved in politics. What a pity a little more care was not taken by your researchers.

But the story itself was just about as accurate, based as you admitted in your issue of a week later, on an article in The Spectator written by a journalist who had seen a file released by the Home Office on so-called Nazi sympathisers in Britain during the last war and which featured, among others, your unfortunate local resident, the late Mr Shufflebottom, who you had been unable to find little about, but nevertheless accused when apparently long dead of being a potential Nazi sympathiser.

How odd that, to your obvious irritation, you were unable to see yourselves this released Home Office file, nor one would suspect, in the absence of other media coverage, any other journalist.

For, according to the Public Records Office, almost before The Spectator journalist had finished his copy, the file was back at the Home Office having been earlier released "due to administrative error."

So what was it all about?

For a decade or so it has become recognised that in the last war M15 was the home of many social misfits, homosexuals and Soviet "moles", including Anthony Blunt with his hot line to the Kremlin, to be exposed many years later.

But in December last, a month before the 'release' of this 'Nazi' file, a book was published exposing the myth of the so-called Fifth Column in Britain, and it rocked the establishment.

In The Highest Degree Odious by Professor A W B Simpson, the distinguished expert on legal matters, currently Professor of Law at the University of Michigan Law School, who took a very poor view of Britain's wartime M15.

Having long experience of the machinations of the Home Office in this area, prodded howbeit by M15, it was a not very clever attempt to rubbish the professor's important work.

"The cumulative effect" said the professor, "of M15's mistakes and unfounded suspicions was to confirm Birkett (Norman Birkett KC, chairman of the advisory committee on detentions) and his colleagues in the belief, formed before May, 1940, that M15 was illiberal, disorganised and incompetent."

"Any residual confidence in M15 must have vanished when Birkett and his colleagues realised, as they must have done in October 1940, if not much earlier, that the organised Fifth Column, in the name of which the number of 18B detainees had risen from just over 100 to around 1,500 and the aliens to 28,000, or so, was, and always had been, a baseless myth."

Editor, Comrade

JOHN CHRISTIAN

County Times 19 March

AND THE LIES BROUGHT IN FROM THE COLD

The war of words that helped to beat Hitler
Daily Mail, Monday, March 1

UNLIKE the vanished 'Nazi collaborators', a War Cabinet "Most Secret" file revealing black propaganda used to undermine German morale, has been released to the Public Record Office and received the full media treatment.

It told of 200,000 rabid wolves let loose by the Russians to attack German wounded; millions of rats bred in corps spreading disease, and a British bomb which created TB. Such disinformation was fed through spy rings, by leaflets dropped by RAF and - the planting of false stories in newspapers. The Germans were at it too but Dr Josef Goebbels, alleged arch-liar of all time, proved to be left behind in this standard of excellence in lying.

We British were also considered, to uphold our morale, to need to share in this excellence and we were lied to on a massive scale, the disinformation on detention of Mosley and his men one example and thought to cover up by mass destruction of the detainees files.

And disinformation became the norm and all successive British governments have lied and double-talked to us ever since, this amorality seeping into the very heart of our society, now a major cause for our country's now quickening slide into decadence and dustbin of history.

TALES OF THE FORTY-THREE



The picture the author did not use in his book. Morris Beckman, his face covered, was it with shame? - leaves a UM meeting at Romford on 14 June 1948. His "commandos", as he calls them, had started to attack a small number of members at the start of a meeting when UM reinforcements from a UM March that had arrived early and was waiting, joined the fray and as Beckman puts it, his boys "turned tail and fled"



FACT: Mosley marches in Union Movement's first march, from Dalston to Camden Town on May Day 1948. **FICTION:** At the end of the march, Mosley emerged from his car and inspected "his elite troops".....Beckman

Old Comrades



One old comrade whose sense of fun will be raised by the book is our Bethnal Green battler, 87 yr old **Dickie Burwood**. It promoted him to the officer class! Misnamed Dickie Bird he was to be Commander of a new UM 'super strong squad to protect their platforms' and 'be available anywhere at any time, even in the dead of night' reported the Group's spies'. Its members would 'receive specialist training in all forms of armed and unarmed combat and would aim to deal with the toughest and most aggressive Group commandos... It would develop into an elite on the model of Hitler's crack SS bodyguard'.

Belated congratulations Commander Burwood!

MOSLEY founded BUF on returning to England after visiting Hitler and Mussolini in 1933 according to Morris Beckman in his recent "The 43 Group", published by Centerprise Publications which has some funding from Hackney Borough Council and the London Arts Board.

Fact is that BUF was born in 1932 and Mosley only met Hitler in 1935 and 1936. Mosley's first meeting after the war at Memorial Hall when he gave notice of his intention to start a new movement was in November 1947 - not June as put by Beckman, and Union Movement was founded in February 1948 - not May. One 'gem' is the listing of Webster and Tyndall, who only became known in 'Nationalist' organisations some 30 years later, were never connected with Mosley's Movement's and were surely young schoolboys before the war, as "pre-war fascist speakers".

The book is strewn with such

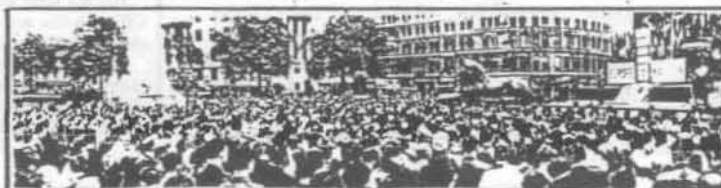
errors of fact, as it is well endowed with fable despite the suggestion it was diligently researched, with the added benefit of the author's active experience. Future researchers would do well to double-check before using this book as a source of information.

The admitted purpose of the '43' was to 'drive the fascists of the streets' by violence. Started in 1946, the author admits that by autumn of 1948 they had "slowed down on enrolment" and in January 1949 disbanded as "the fascists", meaning the one year

old Union Movement, "were beaten". How odd that in a recent letter to the *Jewish Chronicle* he states that "in the end" they "utterly destroyed Union Movement but it 'was a hard nut to crack, which is why it took 4 years to achieve success against it'".

So when was UM destroyed? One year after its 1948 birth as the book says, or in 4 years as he later says?

The truth is plain. It was the 43 Group that lost its will to fight, and the battle, and the books 'story' is codswallop.



FACT: Mosley speaks, Trafalgar Square, 6 June 1958. **FICTION:** In four years the 43 Group (1946-49) utterly destroyed Union Movement.....Beckman

*** F.O.M. ***
May Day Buffet
 Saturday, May 8
 Tickets £10
Make Reservation
NOW

IN MEMORIAM

'Hark! the sound of many voices,

ANDREWS, E.J.D. Canterbury Branch British Union 20 February 1940
AVERY, Capt. E.F. Southampton British Union: 188 Political Prisoner: London February 1976
 Union Movement: at 93 oldest Chelsea Pensioner
BAKER, Bill Howard early UM mbr; journalist, author, publisher 13 February 1991
DONOVAN, J.E. Limehouse British Union: seaman "Action" writer Don Barford: February 1938
EXTON, W.G. 'Bill' British Union D/L Lancaster, D/Insp N/Lancs and Westmorland, BU Parl Candidate Burnley: hold British Union Gold Award 5 February 1989
EXTON, Barry East London British Union and Union Movement February 1976
FULLER, Maj Gen J.P.C. CB CBE DSO original tank expert, thinker, writer: organised British tanks 1914-18 War: British Union Parl Candidate Westminster St. George's 10 February 1966
GOOD, Ann British Union & Union Movement: O.M.'s UM secretary Early 1979
HUTTON, William former D/T Edgbaston, Birmingham British Union February 1937
JONES, Barry Shoreditch Br Union: E/Yorks Regt: E/London UM Candidate 1949 February 1990
LEITCH, Mrs Limehouse Br Union: 101 yr old mother of Glad Walsh, Clacton who passed away December 1990 3 February 1973
RATCLIFFE, Ralph former BU D/L of Bures, Suffolk: UM: at 85 22 February 1989
STEELE, Capt. C.H. BU Parl Cand, Guildford; after brick injury on Blackshirt march February 1939
SUMNER, H.A. Broadstairs British Union & Union Movement February 1973
VALENTINE, Reginald 'Pam' well-known London BU member & proprietor Holborn Distributing Co. Organised sales of Action by newspapers & street sellers: During war, at risk of arrest provided office accommodation for 188 Detainees Aid Fund at 81 February 1959
WITHEY, Mrs F Brixton Union Movement February 1950
BEAVAN, Arthur Brit. Union "T" Squad: D/L West Ham: Upton Parl Candidate: 188 Political Prisoner: Union Movement 23 March 1988
BECKETT, Joe British & Empire H/Wt Champ 1919-23: British Union & Union Movement: at 87 March 1965
BROCK-GROGGS, Tom Brit. Union & RAF: 188 Political Prisoner arrested on active service Far East: husband of BU Chief Woman's Organiser March 1982
CAPLATION, L. 'Cap' BU D/L Croydon winner Action Sales Cap: later D/Insp: 188 Political Prisoner: Bristol Union Movement March 1961
CLAYTON, Charlie East London BU and UM Drum Corps base drummer 17 March 1978
DONNE, Dorothy Viscountess Br Union Parl Cand N/Norfolk: UM 26 March 1957
FERRIS, Don Nottingham British Union: 188 Political Prisoner March 1952
GREEN, John Hackney British Union & Essex Union Movement March 1959
GRINDY, Sid London BU and UM: father of UM 1950s speaker, Trevor 25 March 1991
HAMILTON, Sir Archibald popular member at Selsay Blackshirt Camp March 1939
HAMELY, Frank Sheffield BU teacher: 188 Political Prisoner: Union Movement Organiser and election candidate 26 March 1985
HAYES, Florence Br Union D/L Bournemouth: Womens County Off Bants: 188 Political Prisoner: Union Movement March 1982

Echoes through the vale of ages'

HOOPER, Bill Shoreditch Union Movement March 1949
LETT, A.E. 'Alf' BU Parl Cand Kings Lynn: 188 Political Prisoner: UM: March 1974
LIVINGS, Leslie Leytonstone British Union March 1935
SUSLEY, Charles P St Albans BU: Prop. & Bd St Albans Free Press 4 March 1934
WISSEMAN, Frank C D/Tr Worcester BU: music & singing tutor Worcester Cathedral School: composer BU's Battle Song and author of lost unpublished *Delayed Harvest* written when 188 Political Prisoner 17 March 1983
WINPER, James H 78 Canadian Bn 1914-18: Br Union D/L Dorset N: 188 Political Prisoner: Wessex Branch Union Movement March 1953
BOY, James Clifford Prop Off N/E Leeds British Union: NMQ Staff speaker: 188 Political Prisoner April 1987
BRIDING, Peter Lewis One of 5 Ealing Blackshirt brothers now deceased, Clement In German Concentration Camp 20 April 1985
CANETELL, Roy author, poet, soldier, patriot: good friend of Franco Spain and British Union April 1957
CHITTEL, E.B. Morden British Union bus driver April 1939
DENTON, Walter British Union D/L Doncaster: 188 Political Prisoner: Union Movement April 1962
DICKINSON, H. 'Pop' Manchester BU: father of Reg. Insp Charlie Dickenson April 1940
DIXON, Mrs Lillian wife of British Union D/L Jameson Dixon April 1966
DORRIS, Albert D/T British Union, Hulme, Manchester April 1937
DUFF, 'Paddy' Union Movement: London Drum Corps 12 April 1986
DUMAYNE, Henry British Union: Stn London Union Movement April 1976
EDWARDS, Hywel Birmingham Union Movement April 1991
EASTWELL, Jack Bethnal Green British Union & Union Movement April 1975
ENGLISH, Mrs Marjorie Angela mthr of Kensington UM org Michael April 1952
FINCH, Bernard Union Movement: at Hammondsworth, Middlesex April 1980
HODGKIN, George D/T Eye, Suffolk BU: 188 Political Prisoner: UM 9 April 1985
HODGKIN, Miss Rhid Union Movement: aunt of UM's Bill Harris April 1980
LAMBERT, George Shoreditch BU & UM: father of BU & UM's George, HM 19 April 1952
MERRITT, William crippled ex-soldier Tottenham BU: In Australia April 1980
NIGHTINGALE, A BU D/L Hoveham: 188 Political Prisoner: UM April 1948
PEARSON, Lucy British Union Parl Candidate, Canterbury: UM 10 April 1959
PHILLIPS, Joe Limehouse British Union: Union Movement April 1951
PRITCHARD, David Br Union NMQ Staff: in motor cycle accident April 1935
SHERRARD, Fred E London Blackshirt Cadet: UM N/London organiser 30 April 1988
SILK, Alf E London BU: husband & father of UM's Ann & Jerry April 1976
SIMPSON, Eric Woodford: BU & UM Drum Corps: husband of Pam 4 April 1988
SMITH, 'Robby' Limehouse British Union: husband of Ann April 1984
SURTEES, C.H.R. Dorset W British Union: Union Movement April 1982
TOMKINS, Bruce Kingston British Union speaker: Union Movement 25 April 1990
WHITE, Albert Early UM member: N/W London local election candidate. In Lancashire in his 80s April 1991

COMRADE

Incorporating ACTION and UNION

Newsletter of Friends of O.M.I.



No.39

'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'

May-July 1993

JUNE 1940 ECHO

AN AIRMAN TO HIS MOTHER Per *Ardua ad Astra*
'ONLY with diffidence and reverence can the task be approached of drawing attention to the letter from the young airman...that may well become historical, a classic...by a young airman to his mother'

LONDON TUESDAY JUNE 18 1940

THE TIMES

53 years on it can now be told 'UNKNOWN AIRMAN' ONE OF MOSLEY'S BLACKSHIRTS

his last penned words to his mother
'doctored' for 'political correctness'



VIVIAN ROSEWARNE

Mosley Blackshirt



UNKNOWN AIRMAN

Posthumous anonymous portrait of Vivian Rosewarne by artist Frank Salisbury

FALSEHOOD IN WARTIME

show to give an idea of how the old and young FAKE? or FAKE?

INSIDE: The Vivian Rosewarne Story

if he was killed.

Moved by its wording, the station commander at RAF, Marham, Norfolk, Group Captain C.Hilton Keith, wrote

to the mother of the airman, Flying Officer Vivian Rosewarne, asking for her permission for it to

Turn to Page 2

VIVIAN ROSEWARNE



Flying Officer, RAF

By JOHN CHRISTIAN

THE published record of the 'Airman's Letter' tells us that an unidentified RAF pilot missing on a bombing operation to assist British troops retreating to Dunkirk on May 30 1940, had left a letter to be sent to his mother

1939 British Union 1945 ROLL OF HONOUR

ATTEN, Sq/L. Lionel: RAF 99 Sqdn: shot down bombing German convoy off Dunkirk HUF "1" Squad: Q/L/C Black House HQ 1935 brother of Andrew HUF killed RAF 1937, of Marjorie, HUF Wom and D/Org and son of Commander Atten RN and HUF: Lies in Dunkirk: 7 July 1941

AYRES, Pte Francis 'Nipper': 6th Bn Green Howards: Limehouse British Union: age 20: killed in action Dunkirk: lies in Oye-Plage Communal Cemetery, France. 25 May 1940

CHAMBERS, Donald: Joined RAF first day W2 then British Political Prisoner

then Army from which discharged to die: Epping British Union & BU Drum Corps: Comrade's back-page bugler.

FAIRLEY, W/O David George: RAF 212 Sqdn: Leytonstone British Union: killed on ops Cochín, India: lies Madras War Cemetery 27 June 1944

FITCH, W/Om R.L.J. 'Tigger' IFC: RAF: Clapham British Union: 26, killed on operations in Norfolk: lies Kewdon High Churchyard, Essex. 21 May 1945

GILL, Sgt. P.L.B.W: RAF VR: instructor No 3 Glider Training School after time as British Political Prisoner: Leeds British Union: age 22: killed in flying accident whilst instructing: lies in Barehills Cemetery, Leeds. 28 May 1943

GREENWOOD, Capt. Charles: 8th Bn Parachute Regt Army Air Corps: Act. Prop. Off Bnfield British Union & Act/D Ldr 1939-40, London speaker: killed in action D-Day: age 29: lies Ranville War Cemetery, Normandy. 6 June 1944

IRVINE, Pte R: 1/5 Bn Queens R Regt: age 21: Shoreditch British Union: killed in action Dunkirk: lies Strazeele Communal Cemetery, France. 28 May 1940

MAYS, Sgt John Basil: RE: age 25: W/Leeds British Union: Municipality Candidate: despatch rider killed in accident Henswell RAF Station, Lincs after evacuated Dunkirk: lies St Chad Churchyard, Harpswell, Lincs. 26 July 1940

MILLAN, L/Cpl 'Paddy': Corps of Military Police, formerly Palestine Police: British Union "1" Squad: co-defendant with OM at Warthig riotous assembly trial: killed in action Battle of Knightsbridge Box: lies Knightsbridge War Cemetery, Acrom, Libya. 12 June 1942

WALSH, Sgt Michael 'Micky': RAF VR: 156 Sqdn: age 23: Limehouse British Union: killed in action Bremen op: Remembered Runnymede Air Force Memorial. 27 July 1942

And now joined to the Roll

ROSEWARNE, FL. Off Vivian A.W.: RAF 38 Sqdn: age 24: killed in action off Dunkirk: famed in death for his 'An Airman to his Mother': unidentified then as was his Blackshirt past: Wimbleton British Union: lies in Veurne Communal Cemetery, Belgium. 30 May 1940

THOMSON, Sgt. William Newby: 7 Field Dressing Station, RAMC: killed in action, Normandy: age 27: killed in action Normandy: Liverpool British Union: lies in Ranville War Cemetery, Belgium. 19 July 1944

'UNKNOWN AIRMAN' ONE OF MOSLEY'S BLACKSHIRTS

be published. Presumably granted, the letter was published 'in full' in The Times nearly three weeks later, on 18 June, that newspaper giving it the added importance of an editorial, and the following day it announced that the letter was to be made available as a four page leaflet, (250 for s8.6d). Many thousands were sold within a few days and by the end of the year 500,000 copies had been printed. In August, a slim volume entitled "An Airman's letter" was published by arrangement with Putnam & Co.

The King 'deeply moved'

With the war going badly the letter moved the nation. In the days following publication, letters to The Times spoke of "bequeathing the letter to the nation", and placing it "among our records of ageless glory". Another reader promised that "this young man" would be remembered "with pride and thankfulness, and will live for ever in the hearts of men".

HM King George VI was also "deeply moved after reading the recent anonymous letter in The Times...written by your son", his mother, Mrs Lilian Rosewarne was informed in a letter from Buckingham Palace. "The sentiments...expressed with such simplicity and with such conviction will, the King is sure, bring inspiration to the young as well as comfort to their parents in these days of stress."

For the Government's propaganda arm it was an event for which it was almost waiting for to happen, and it swung into action and The Times leaflet went into several foreign languages, including Arabic, and Group Captain Hilton Keith was permitted to take time off from his station commander duties to read the letter on BBC radio.

Read out in schools and church pulpit

The letter was read out in schools and church pulpits throughout the land and later framed copies of the printed text were on permanent display. Enlarged copies were displayed at "Wings for Victory" weeks held throughout the war, and within months another booklet published by Duttons "An Airman's Letter to his Mother" had its sixth printing.

Enter film-maker and portrait painter

A five-minute film was produced for MGM by producer Michael Powell, narrated by John Gielgud and although it is not shown on the list of wartime government sponsored propaganda films, it clearly was.

By August of "An Unknown Airman" by Frank O Salisbury was unveiled, posthumously painted from the small photograph on our front page and incorporating words from the Vivian Rosewarne letter. It was loaned to some authorities to accompany the displayed letter at special war effort functions and command a place in British history. The original oil painting now hangs in the Bean Memorial Library at Brentwood School where Vivian was a pupil from 1928 to 1932. A double of the painting was presented to the RAF College, Cranwell and now hangs in the RAF Museum at Hendon. It is also featured in the official "History of Brentwood School" and shares a place with the Royal Family, service chiefs and political leaders in "Your Finest Hour: 1939-1945", the official Souvenir Folder produced for servicemen's Farewell Service in 1945.

The death of her only son faced Mrs Lilian Rosewarne with a challenge which she met and fulfilled. Mail to 'the airman's mother' was so enormous that she had to acknowledge with a printed card and became actively involved in many of the events arising out of 'the letter'. For two years, from two days after the publication of the letter, the Manager of The Times, a Mr. Kent, was her authorised agent "to act on her behalf in all matters permitting to the publication of her son's letter".

Unnoticed death of the 'Airman's Mother'

She died at 91 in 1981 and an obituary in The Times told of her "quiet, obscure and virtually unnoticed death, in indigent circumstances", and for the first time, after some 50 years, the obituary, in passing, published the name of her son as the war's 'unknown airman'.

One wonders if this grand old lady took the secret of her son's Blackshirt past to the grave, a grave on which is inscribed "An Airman's Mother".

Or did she in fact reveal it too late to stop the

propaganda bandwagon rolling but sworn to secrecy for sake of Britain's war effort? This knowledge held by the establishment would certainly explain why the name of the war's unknown airman, that young man who in 1940 "would live for ever in the hearts of men", Mosley Blackshirt Vivian Rosewarne, was never officially honoured by the revealing of his name over the following fifty years and remembered only, now that all is known, by a remaining few of his Blackshirt comrades.

And how ironical that six days before taking off on his fatal flight, Mosley, the man for whom the young airman had the greatest respect had been jailed as a 'security risk' and within a week of his death nearly 800 of his former Blackshirt comrades had been thrown into jails and concentration camps as 'potential traitors' without charge or trial.

For Group Commander Hilton Keith, who is recorded as being the prime mover in the launching of the 'Airman's Letter' and maintained some involvement in events which followed, his remaining years in the RAF do not appear to be happy ones, and shrouded is some mystery. Within a year he was posted to Canada and claimed bitterly that he had been passed over for promotion in May 1940. He was placed on the retired list in April 1943 and died in 1946.

Vivian Rosewarne was all and everything that was said about him in glowing terms in 1940. He had been until RAF service prevented it further, a Blackshirt and any Blackshirt with the gift of words could have supplied most of the sentiments of young Rosewarne's letter.

Perhaps he was chosen by the Gods to play this part in British history. In their cynicism:

and a Blackshirt's last words to his wife

THE INVASION

AND so he fell,
His young life incomplete,
And we, who knew him, mourn his loss,
Yet knowing his brave spirit,
Forebear to weep our lives away.

His merry laugh, his twinkling eyes, his zest for life and love,
His merry spirit beckons us to smile in memory
Demanding no less than we live as lived and died.

Youth pays England's debt, in blood that's freely spent
And we who are left cannot rest content

We can know not the full measure of a mother's and a lover's loss.

Who can fill the aching void where dwelt the very heart of life?

I hear him saying now "No more, you who know me say
Live as I lived, love as I loved, and with memory to guide you
See life's battles through."

● "THE INVASION" was sent to his wife by RAMC Sgt WILLIAM NEWBY THOMSON on the eve of his embarkation for Normandy where he was to die of wounds on 19 July 1944. A Liverpool Blackshirt, he wrote that "the lines really want polishing off, containing no special merit apart from the fact that they are my feelings and thoughts..." Nevertheless, after 50 years they were chosen for inclusion in "POPPY FIELDS: A Century of War" published by Poetry Now last year.

ENGLAND, land of my hopes,
Fears, sorrows and joys
England, land of the free,
Whose very soul is stirred
When winds, waves and foe are dured
By men of all lands
Whose common purpose is to see this through.

Thoughts may bring doubts
Of England's kindness to her kin
In Peace. But war unites -
No man may stand aside from this
With that full knowledge, which springs from love,
We take our place beside our forbears,
Whose proud traditions live and challenge our weakness.

Draw strength then from our Island's tale.
Fail not where they succeeded.
To die is but to die - no more
It is the spirit which one dies with.

Pray hard for strength and it shall come
And at long length, the battle won
Tired and worn,
Yet shall there be reborn
An England which doth show the way
To high achievement for the promised day.

His untitled verse had been scribbled in pencil after a visit to the mother and fiancée of an airman comrade killed on flying operations.

OUR BLACKSHIRT DEAD Page 6

THE FAKING OF THE AIRMAN'S LETTER

The Original Letter

From page 1

in saving the lives of the men on the crippled Trinity House light house relief ship.

Most important of all, our reconnaissance of Northern Norway has shown the Scandinavians refuse to supply the main link in a chain of evidence that would lead to the Ray being actually on the spot at time; and on time is of vital importance in such strategy, you will readily appreciate that our humble share of the war has been more than justified, as the turning point of the whole struggle will be in Scandinavia.

Though it will be difficult for you, you will sympathise as

From page 2

choice to give and dare all for his principles like the martyrs of old, and many aunts who have too long worked for a Norway as empty the mind of their comrades.

How long time may be, as things can never be altered, I shall have lived and died an Englishman, nothing else matters as yet, as can anything else change it.

From pages 2 and 3

in Belgium and all that it entails, that would be hypocrisy.

I have no fear of death, only a queer elation. Though the shootings of the average dogman leave me quite unimpressed, I have great faith in the philosophic and scientific reasons for a Supreme Being and an after life.

I have not seen a Saint, I have frequently seen a being far more than a created amount of the worldly things of life, yet I can comfort myself without falling on my knees and say that I have seen deliberately wronged on the war. continued page 3

This, and my friend will make my friend to the world in good and bad, and I know that my friend will make me in the West, the East, the North and the South, as many others.

I would have it as other ways. The human is so

The FAKE

From page 1

in saving the lives of the men on the crippled light house relief ship.

Though it will be difficult for you, you will sympathise as

COMMENT: "Trinity House" would any rate have been blocked by Ministry of Information censorship as information of value to the enemy, so a legitimate deletion. The letter was dated April but by June 18 Britain had suffered the Norwegian and Dunkirk evacuation thus no reason for censorship to prevent the Germans knowing! But it was not good for our politicians digestion.

From page 2

choice to give and dare all for his principles like the martyrs of old, How long time may be, as things can never be altered, I shall have lived and died an Englishman, nothing else matters as yet, as can anything else change it.

COMMENT: The neutrals, meaning USA, must not be offended. Britain was almost bankrupt and needed American aid.

From page 2

in Belgium and all that it entails, that would be hypocrisy.

I have no fear of death, only a queer elation.

I would have it as other ways. The human is so

COMMENT: Would not have persuaded the parsons to propagate the letter from the pulpit! The names of the dead airmen were surely of great value to the enemy? And as they wished to make the young unknown airmen a Saint.... The faked letter, 2 pages had been reduced in size from the 'original' so we have enlarged the writing back to its true size for our comparison. Pencil mark can be seen where unofficial censor denotes deletion. Handwriting clearly seems to be VIVIAN ROSEMARNE's compared with previous samples, but must be noted the considerable difference between right margins on pages 1,2 and 3, and on page 2 different margins on one page.

THE FULLY FINISHED FAKE

AN AIRMAN TO HIS MOTHER

First published in THE TIMES, June 18th, 1940

Dearest Mother,
Though I feel no premonition at all, events are moving rapidly, and I have instructed this letter be forwarded to you should I fail to return from one of the raids which we shall shortly be called upon to undertake. You must hope on for a month, but at the end of that time you must accept the fact that I have handed my task over to the extremely capable hands of my comrades in the Royal Air Force, as so many splendid fellows have already done.

First, it will comfort you to know that my role in this war has been of the greatest importance. Our patrols over the North Sea have helped to keep the trade routes clear for our convoys and supply ships, and on one occasion our information was instrumental in saving the lives of the men in a crippled light-house relief ship. Though it will be difficult for you,

you will disappoint me if you do not at least try to accept the facts dispassionately, for I shall have done my duty to the utmost of my ability. No man can do more, and no one calling himself a man could do less.

I have always admired your amazing courage in the face of continual setbacks; in this way you have given me as good an education and background as anyone in the country; and always keep up appearances without ever losing faith in the future. My death would not mean that your struggle has been in vain. Far from it. It means that your sacrifice is as great as mine. Those who serve England must expect nothing from her; we debase ourselves if we regard our country as merely a place in which to eat and sleep.

History resounds with illustrious names who have

given all, yet their sacrifice has resulted in the British Empire, where there is a measure of peace, justice, and freedom for all, and where a higher standard of civilisation has evolved, and is still evolving, than anywhere else. But this is not only concerning our own land. Today we are faced with the greatest organised challenge to Christianity and civilisation that the world has ever seen, and I count myself lucky and honoured to be at the right age and fully trained to throw my full weight into the scale. For this I have to thank you. Yet there is more work for you to do. The home front will still have to stand united for years after the war has been won. For all that could be said against it, I still maintain that this war is a very good thing: every individual is having the chance to give

and dare all for his principle like the martyrs of old. However long the time may be, one thing can never be altered - I shall have lived and died an Englishman. Nothing else matters one jot nor can anything ever change it.

You must not grieve for me, for if you really believe in religion and all that it entails that would be hypocrisy. I have no fear of death: only a queer elation.... I would have it no other way. The universe is so vast and so ageless that the life of one man can only be justified by the measure of his sacrifice. We are sent to this world to acquire a personality and a character to take with us that can never be taken from us. Those who eat and sleep, prosper and procreate, are no better than animals if all their lives they are at peace.

I firmly and absolutely

believe that evil things are sent into the world to try us: they are sent deliberately by our Creator to test our metal because He knows what is good for us. The Bible is full of cases where the easy way out has been discarded for moral principles.

I count myself fortunate in that I have seen the whole country and known men of every calling. But with the final test of war I consider my character fully developed. Thus at my early age my earthly mission is already fulfilled and I am prepared to die with just one regret, and one only - that I could not devote myself to making your declining years more happy by being with you; but you will live in peace and freedom and I shall have directly contributed to that, so here again my life will not have been in vain.

Your Loving Son,

THE VIVIAN ROSEWARNE STORY

TURNING A PAGE of the magazine *THIS ENGLAND* in late 1988, the reader was transfixed with the name, leaping out of the print, of VIVIAN ROSEWARNE. The article "Salute the Soldier Poets" by RAF historian CHRISTOPHER ELLIOTT revealed that this young man was the "Unknown Airmen" of World War 2, famed in death for his letter to his mother. The letter which in 1940 was suggested should "one day be bequeathed to the Nation and take its place among our records of ageless glory" was attractively reproduced.

It was an emotional discovery for our lady with the magazine for she, like the young ROSEWARNE, had in the 1930s been a Blackshirt and had been close friends socially and in the Blackshirt ranks. She had known and sorrowed of his death in action in 1940 but nothing more. She was now in her seventies and had never married.

Her discovery was sent to an old Blackshirt with whom she was in touch. He was also a one-time comrade of Blackshirt Rosewarne and was also unaware that his dead old friend was he who it had been said "would live for ever in the hearts of men". He saw much of the young Rosewarne in the wording of the letter but was most upset about a sentence that had been used as he believed it was an

opinion not held by the writer and it raised his doubts on its authenticity, particularly in view of its vast use for wartime propaganda, and he asked "Comrade" to investigate - a tall order!

Three-year search

This issue is the result of our three-year investigation. Much that was unknown is now known but there is still much left unanswered. We shall

continue to question as we believe it our duty to the nation, to British history, and to the dead VIVIAN ROSEWARNE whose patriotism was abused.

Time for Truth

Perhaps the establishment which has forgotten that unknown young man that it once showered with praise and was to be "remembered with pride" will now put the record straight.

Perhaps. At least, with our revelations VIVIAN ROSEWARNE comes in out of the cold and again in union with the long line of Blackshirt comrades stretching way back into the past, his memory safe in the hands of we few who are left, and in British history.

Blackshirt and Flying Officer VIVIAN ROSEWARNE has returned to base.

Blackshirt Rosewarne

BORN at East Dulwich on 5 September 1916, VIVIAN ALLEN WILLIAM ROSEWARNE was educated at the London Choir School and later, from 1928 to 1932 as a boarder at Brentwood School, Essex. A letter from the school head James Hough to his mother in the family papers, now at the RAF Museum, Hendon, shows that Mrs. Rosewarne had difficulty in maintaining young Vivian's school fees. He gained his school certificate with credit in French, Maths, Physics and Art with distinction.

On leaving school he took an office job and tried to join the South African Police but was too young. We don't know when he joined the BUF but certainly by 1934, then 18, he was certainly a young very active Blackshirt, a member of Wimbledon Branch.

His old male Blackshirt friend told "Comrade" I first met him at the great Mosley Albert Hall meeting in 1934 when we were stewards together and I believe he had also been a steward at the 'battle' of Olympia. He was full of enthusiasm, a forthright sort of chap with an outgoing character. He was a great one for Mosley, a young man with great ideals that were extinguished by his untimely death. I know also that his mother certainly maintained views that support-

The search for his letter

ARMED with the knowledge of VIVIAN ROSEWARNE's Blackshirt past, COMRADE visited the RAF Museum to whom we had learned the family papers had been presented on Mrs. Rosewarne's death. We discovered many papers covering the young man's life from birth to death and the ensuing saga of the 'Airmen's Letter'.

There was also Vivian's photo-album and significantly there were four postcard-size blank spaces covering the 1930s period which had obviously at one time held snapshots. It is very probable that these, including the picture we have used, had been removed to conceal his past with Mosley's Blackshirts.

But the most important document of all, Vivian Rosewarne's original letter to his mother was not in the Rosewarne archive.

Subsequently the RAF Museum did supply a photocopy of a well copied 'letter' which was understood to have been obtained from other sources. It was an unsigned letter and although it was worded exactly as the printed text published, one felt it was not the original letter. The RAF Museum confirmed that 'the executors' of Mrs. Rosewarne's estate had approached *The Times* for the original letter but was told that it had been lost in 1940 and therefore never returned to the mother, a position confirmed to the Museum in their own independent approach. "What an unlikely story" said COMRADE.

A spokesman for the RAF Museum also confirmed the view put to him, which had been put to COMRADE by an RAF historian, that Group Captain Hilton Keith, the station commander, who presented the letter, had "probably combined the pilot's sentiments into one letter which became known as the one to his mother". In view of later developments we cannot subscribe to this view but nevertheless does not rule out that the letter may have been 'organised' by the Group Captain.

By persistence COMRADE did discover that an original letter did exist, in the archives of *News International* who now own *The Times*. The results of this discovery unfold we hope in this issue. Our old Blackshirt comrade who asked us investigate was informed, about which we are glad, but he suddenly died. We were badly in need of real evidence on Rosewarne the Blackshirt and had understood that the lady who had been a Blackshirt had this evidence.

But we had little information on her identity. It will be seen by elsewhere in this issue that this problem was resolved.

ed Vivian's activities from conversing with her on the occasions I visited their Wimbledon home. I kept in touch with him through his mother after he had joined the RAF, but then along came the war and by the time I heard of his death I was as you know in a

British concentration camp."

"I know" he continued, "that he had a lot of time for Hitler and Nationalist Socialist Germany. He believed they were good for Germany and indeed that Germany was a bulwark against Soviet communism who he regarded as 'the greatest

The riddle of Group Capt. Hilton Keith

LESS THAN 24 hours after Flying Officer ROSEWARNE was missing on the bombing mission over Belgium, his station commander at RAF, Marham, GROUP CAPTAIN C HILTON KEITH had asked his mother for permission to have her son's letter published. Writing on June 1st 1940 he was ahead of the Air Ministry's official notice to Mrs. Rosewarne. The fact that he was involved at all at this stage as it was the normal procedure for the Squadron Commander to write to the next-of-kin and return any dead airmen's effects. This in fact occurred several days later when, on 9th June WING COMMANDER J.W. BOWLES informed the mother that the squadron was maintaining that her son had "landed safely and that we may hear of him and his crew during the coming weeks".

It therefore seems that when the young ROSEWARNE says in his letter to his mother that "I have instructed this letter to be forwarded to you should I fail to return" he had in fact lodged it with the station.

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challenge to Christianity and civilisation that the world has ever seen".

But he was not interested in Germany believing that Britain had enough to do developing her Empire, and with Mosley to lead, surpass anything the

Continued Page 5

'Airman's Letter' Film also faked

WITH MICHAEL POWELL as producer and JOHN GIELGUD narrator, the 'Airman's Letter' was "turned by MGM into an unusually, touching, yet not mindless, short film" said The Times obituary on the airman's mother years later. It joined the hundreds of thousands copies of the letter in various formats that "had a tremendous effect on the thinking and feeling Anglo-Saxon world...." to "further serve the national interest...."



Thatched cottage? A sketch of the Rosewarne house in Dora Road, Wimbledon in the 1930s

4 HILTON KEITH

ion commander, again an unusual procedure. Other airmen left such letters - even if less publishable - but these were usually found among the dead airman's effects.

This could explain why the Group Captain was so quick off the mark, but not why the hurry? It certainly would have been an emotional shock for the mother, even if ultimately a pleasant one, if news eventually came that her son was alive. His premature release of the information would explain why there was nearly a three week delay before THE TIMES publication of the letter, awaiting confirmation of actual or probable death of the young airman.

In his letter to THE TIMES the station commander said "I hope this letter may be read

Released a year after the letter's publication in July 1941 "An Airman to His Mother" opened with that typical scene of England so beloved by our American cousins - the country lane with thatched cottage, the camera then dwelling on the memorabilia packed unknown airman's room maintained for him in his mother's home. There was of course passing shots of the letter, his bomber squadron plaque and such collectables, even a boomerang, typical of the image of the life-style of many of those young Englishmen who 'reached for the sky' before ending their short lives in the RAF.

Yes, it was a touching film even if the Rosewarne home was a modest semi-detached in Dora Road, Wimbledon, and the young man's room transferred to a set at Denham Studios.

In fact the only authenticity in the film was a few snapshots and photos, framed for the film, and the 'letter' which we now know must have been the faked copy, the mass memorabilia, including the squadron plaque, borrowed from other sources.

Writing to Mrs Rosewarne in March 1941, Michael Powell reported that they had to make slight alteration to the film sound tracks "...owing to a

Turn to Page 6

by the greatest possible number of our countrymen at home and abroad". It is inconceivable that he had taken this initiative before prior permission from a higher authority.

GROUP CAPTAIN CLAUDE HILTON KEITH, born in Canada served in France in RVAS and RAF in World War I and afterwards served for four years at the RAF College. Between the wars he had several postings at home and overseas and in 1933 was appointed Assistant Director of Scientific Research and was regarded as a specialist in air navigation and armament duties. He took over the command of RAF, Marham in late 1939.

Following the publication of the 'Airman's Letter' the Group Captain was invited to read out the letter on BBC Radio, presumably with Air Ministry permission and developed a personal

in 1936 applied but was turned down for an RAF short service commission. He was then fortunate to get a job with Scott Bros, a Stock Exchange firm in Bishopsgate and was then able to join No.601 (County of Lon-



"THIS ENGLAND" Winter 1988

It stirred old memories of the girl who never forgot

AFTER the sudden death of our old comrade who had given the information on VIVIAN ROSEWARNE, we were faced with the lack of evidence of his Blackshirt past, evidence that was very necessary should this truth be challenged after publication of the story we knew we had to write. We knew of the 'lady with the magazine' - but where? Ultimately we were able to approach her and she has supplied irrefutable evidence; the photo which we use in this issue.

She has also been kind enough to tell us a little more about the young Vivian. This is her story.

"We were friends for quite a while" she said, "with mutual interests in cinema, singing and ice-skating. We went to Queens Club or Richmond Ice Rink practically every week and visited each others homes and Vivian and Mrs. Rosewarne attended my 21st Birthday dance. I was a member of two Operatic Societies and Vivian used to attend rehearsals with me."

She confirmed that he was a member of Wimbledon Branch of British Union, the photograph in his Blackshirt uniform taken by her in the garden of Dora

Road, Wimbledon home.

"I was a member of another London branch" she said, but met often at meetings. We also enjoyed going to National Headquarters in Chelsea to sing the party songs". (The Black House: Ed.)

She said he was an exceptional artist and "could be quite a poet". She had on many occasions received letters from him "written in poetry rather than prose". She therefore had no difficulty in believing in such terms as in the 'Airman's Letter' which she saw for the first time three years ago in the magazine.

She was confused about Mrs. Rosewarne. If she had seen the original letter she could not imagine, knowing her, giving her permission for the wording to be altered.

We also were confused - until with more thought we saw that allowances had to be made for the situation thrust upon her.

In respect of her wishes, the girl who many years ago, when "In our teens we had high ideals of what we would wish for our country", formed a close friendship with the young man who was to become the nation's 'unknown airman', we will leave her with her memories, to be remembered, as just the unknown 'lady with the magazine'

correspondence relationship with Mrs Rosewarne. Several months later he was posted to take command, from 1941-42, at No.31 Bombing and Gunnery School, a move about which he was later to complain bitterly.

"I will probably write a book" he said, writing to Mrs. Rosewarne from Canada in April 1941. It will "include my days at Marham

and you will probably read a little about your son..." he continued.

A year later he was back in England to command the RAF Central Gunnery School at Sutton Bridge and he took a poor view of what he found there and writing to Mrs Rosewarne in June

Turn to Page 6

4 ROSEWARNE

Germans had done. That is why I am very suspicious about the authenticity of his letter."

Like many young Blackshirts he had his head in the sky and

don) Squadron AAF. Accepted then for Preliminary Flying Training in May 1937 he was a year later able to obtain his short service commission.

Did he write the famous letter? It would seem so but

not the faked letter published, and there is some evidence and certainly a deep instinct to suggest that the original is not all it seems.

5 HILTON KEITH

1942 he said that he had "arrived back on 19 April and have been unable to get a straight answer why he had been recalled short of the prescribed time in Canada.

They shunted him out of Marham on a trumped up excuse and as a sop they gave me a mention in despatches for the good work done there.

The present Vice Chief of Air Staff does not like me and as long as he remains of Air Council will never get promoted". (Air Chief Marshall Sir Wilfred Freeman:Ed.)

By September he was writing to Mr. James Hough, headmaster of Brentwood School who had invited him to give a lantern lecture: "I am leaving this station somewhat earlier than I had anticipated and do not know my future movements - nor shall I until I am back from 10 days leave I am starting next week."

But his next move after leave was to the Burton Clinic from where he was to write on November 1 to Mrs. Rosewarne that he was there to "try and get rid of a creaking hip I got in Canada," and that he had left RAF Sutton Bridge. "I have a feeling" he continued, "that I shall be retired very probably before I am 53 (in a year's time) - and am therefore looking out for a civilian job. I am trying to get with the BBC as an announcer, but I am told it is very difficult...without some influence. I wonder if you know anyone at the BBC with whom you would be kind enough to put in a good word on my behalf?" He told her that he and his wife had bought their first permanent home which she was setting up at Rirley, and

then returned to his attack on the Air Chief Marshall. "I find that I ought to have been promoted in May 1940, but I fell foul of Wilfred Freeman in 1924 and he has spoiled my chances and I shall never get promoted now...."

(In 1924 the Group Captain was based at the RAF Staff College where the Air Chief Marshall, then a Group Captain was an instructor. Ed.)

Referring to his BBC aspirations he continued: "I think it was my broadcast of Vivian's letter that decided me to apply to the BBC - so many like yourself said such kind things about my voice on the air."

For Group Captain Hilton Keith there followed a brief spell at the Air Ministry and was placed on the retired list in April, joining the staff of the BBC in June but before he left Mrs. Rosewarne was writing on his behalf to Brentwood School's headmaster to fix the Group Captain's lantern lecture visit, and, "would you pay his expenses?"

He died in November 1946, age 53, at around the time the book he had promised to write, I Hold my Aim was published. But it did not, as promised, mention Flying Officer Vivian Rosewarne, or the unknown airman and his letter to his mother.

Were the Group Captain's troubles in the last three years of his RAF service really caused by the Air Chief Marshall for something that occurred twenty years before?

Or were they connected with whatever the part was that the Group Captain had played in matters relating to the publication of the "Airman's Letter to his Mother?"

5 FILM FAKED

slight accident in the lab and we needed some additional shots of the letter itself". The film would ready at the end of the week to show to MOM and the Air Council.

According to "British Official Films in the Second World War" sponsored by The Imperial War Museum, there were 1,887 films "officially 'presented' to people in Britain" during Second World War, "through which British Government directly sought to influence British people of all ages - not only in cinemas, but also in factory canteens, church halls

and schoolrooms". The Michael Powell film is not listed as one of them.

So who paid for the film to be made? MOM? It would not have been financially viable so improbable.

Everything points to it being a Government propaganda film but the subject regarded probably as too 'sensitive' to carry the wartime Ministry of Information credit.

It was not to be seen by the British people and the 'Anglo-Saxon world' as a propaganda project, which it was.

And like the original letter, how much is deception and how much truth?

OUR BLACKSHIRT DEAD

Sgt. William Newby Thomson

MY brother and I both came to the same conclusion in the 1930s and joined British Union in Merseyside. former Black-shirt Rob Thomson told Comrade. My younger brother, WILLIAM NEWBY THOMSON, then in his teens, was proud to wear his Black-shirt whenever he was off-duty from Boots in Birkenhead where he was a dispenser. When was seemed inevitable he joined the TA and was in the army from Day 1.

The brothers never met again but at what was to be his last Christmas, 1943, William left for his brother at their parent's home, a copy of Story of a Norfolk Farm by British Union writer Henry Williamson, which he had borrowed, and a Christmas present of the author's The Beautiful Years.

It was July 18, the day that Montgomery launched Operation Goodwood to bypass the stubborn German garrison at Caen and was preceded by the heaviest carpet bombing of a battlefield yet seen. The following large-scale armoured offensive was, however, halted by the 1st SS Panzer Division hurried forward to block the breakout at Bourguibus Ridge.

Meanwhile in a field near Ranville, surrounded by old gliders from the D-Day drop, ex-Blackshirt Thomson, now a Sgt. RAMC, was with his unit, No. 7 Field Dressing Station and that night, the Luftwaffe, with extensive use of flares and anti-personnel bombs, believing the base to be an airfield because of the gliders, bombed it for an hour leaving it a blazing inferno of gliders, tanks and lorries, and Sgt. Thomson was hit and later died from wounds.

He was buried first in Ranville Church Cemetery but now lies in Ranville's War Cemetery, perhaps close by his brother Blackshirt Captain Charles Greenwood, killed with the 8th Paras on D-Day 1, in this issue's Roll of Honour.

● Brother Rob Thomson, now 79, has lived for nearly 50 years with a shattered arm sustained in Normandy.

Embarking for France with the 6th Bn King's Own Scottish Borderers he was wounded in July, the month

Flying Officer Vivian Rosewarne

IT WAS on a reconnaissance flight over the River Elbe and North West Germany on 7 April 1940 that Flying Officer VIVIAN ROSEWARNE first skippered an RAF 38 Squadron operation. Two days later, as the Royal Navy was setting about its task of mining Norwegian territorial waters, the Germans got in first with a full-scale invasion of Norway, a point made, hopefully only as it turned out, in his letter to his mother.

As the Norwegian campaign developed during April he crewed two bombing operations against German-held Norwegian airfields. In May the battle of France had erupted and on 27 May he again piloted his Wellington on a bombing target at St. Omer to assist the hard-pressed British troops retreating to Dunkirk.

Three days later, 30 May, with Belgium surrendered, Boulogne fallen and Calais in flames around the beleaguered British garrison's gallant last stand, he took off from RAF Marham ninety-five minutes before midnight on his fateful mission. Piloting Wellington H3162 with 9 other 38 Sqn Wellingtons, the target was Dixmude, and Ypres believed to be on the rearguard perimeter of the British retreat to Dunkirk.

All aircraft except H3162 returned to base reporting heavy AA and searchlights, and although his squadron commander wrote to Vivian's mother nine days later that he had made many enquiries and learned nothing, it had been reported by another pilot that he had seen an aircraft crash in flames about 6 miles SW of Ostend.

We have not found any report or record of the finding of the crew or aircraft but found he was for he now lies in Veume (Pumes) Communal Cemetery, Belgium.

Through all the propaganda use that was made of his letter after his death there is one thing of which we can be sure.

He was proud and glad to have "lived and died an Englishman".

his brother died, and discharged in February 1945 after many months in hospital.

Book review

A Dictatorship of Words

EDITED by Geoffrey Alderman and Colin Holmes, *Outsiders and Outcasts* (Duckworth £35) is a collection of essays on East London life written as a tribute to William Fishman who was Barnet Shire Senior Research Fellow in Labour Studies at the University of London.

One of the pieces, by Thomas J Linehan, is a study of British Union in Hackney and Stoke Newington 1933-40. The depth of research, reflected in the footnotes is impressive and the author has been able to interview former Blackshirts who had been active in these districts.

The essay makes the point that BU support there was much greater than has hitherto been appreciated by academics, and presumably others. The general impression that one is left with at the end of this study is, however, misleading in the extreme.

The highly selective use of factual material and the careful exclusion of other important aspects of the subject are skillfully employed to convey the idea that BU members were motivated by an obsessive form of racial antagonism and that this was their only political interest.

It is a matter of record that during this period British Union was critical of some Jewish interests for specific reasons and passions ran high on both sides. But the author must also know from his research that this issue was only one among many and to highlight it exclusively is to produce a picture that can only be described as spectacularly unbalanced.

People were motivated to join BU for all kinds of reasons including bad working conditions, unemployment and want. Disillusionment with the Old Parties and the positive belief that Mosley and British Union alone could stop Britain's economic and political decline, and opposition to the looming future war was another reason. Often there was not any reason but just a gut feeling for British Union. It gave hope when there had been none. Except for a brief reference to BU's 'Anti-War Campaign' no mention is made of any of these motives whatever. The unknown reader is therefore left with the thought that British Union in this locality was only interested in bashing the racial minority.

It is noticeable that statistics are given indicating that the two districts enjoyed the least overcrowding of the hous-

ing stock and the most open spaces in East London. Hackney and Stoke Newington are presented almost as an oasis of Belgravia in a sea of East London deprivation, which would raise eyebrows of some who once lived there and remember. Its object clearly appears to be to forestall any thoughts that people might have joined British Union because they were fed up with living in slums.

So having 'established' that the Blackshirts in these districts were the most violently disposed in the whole of BU, the suggestion is made that this then overflowed into adjacent Bethnal Green, Shoreditch and Limehouse thus initiating these areas' strong associations with the Mosley movement. The members of Hackney and Stoke Newington branches are presented as prototype Serbian thugs of the worst order.

This theory, and it can be no more than that, that support for British Union, which presumably went with the 'violence', overflowed into adjacent areas, is in itself very flawed and one would be interested to see the research detail to confirm the author's conclusions.

The fact is that the first area in East London to show active support for British Union, later developing into a mass movement was Bethnal Green and Shoreditch and Limehouse soon followed.

Hackney, with whom we will couple Stoke Newington for the purpose of the author's research did in fact grow to a strong area of British Union support but it followed, not led, that growing mass movement in East London, which, without the war, might have been the catalyst for a British Union Britain, with the hopes and loyalties of all those East London areas realised.

Mr. Linehan should take a further look into his research papers.

GORDON BECKWELL

● Thomas Linehan, now a teacher at West London of Higher Education, recently completed a several year major study of recruitment into East London Branches of British Union, with considerable assistance from RM. His official supervisor for the study was Geoffrey Alderman who is Professor of Politics and Contemporary History at Royal Holloway College, University of London. He is author of many works on the Jewish communities

TORIES TOPS FOR SWEATED LABOUR

By ROBERT ROW

SO now it is 'official'. Our Tory government stands openly and unashamed for sweated labour! A British firm that has made Army uniforms for nearly 100 years is closing down because, according to the *Daily Telegraph*, "cheaper versions are being imported from Morocco". It will save the Chancellor millions buying from North African sweatshops, but it cost all the jobs in the Gloucester factory with a century of fine service.

So much for Major's 'recovery' and the way his 'free trade' doctrine works.

Yet this is only the latest case in a very long story. Free trade during the 1920s meant big imports of cheap Polish coal when thousands of British miners were out of work. In 1926, the year of the General Strike, Mosley spoke to miners all over Britain, demanding an end to these imports, and decent wages in the coal industry. That was why the miners' leader A.J. Cook signed the Mosley Manifesto in 1930.

It was the same story in the 1930s, again under the Tories. Sweated labour and price cutting by India, Japan and Hong Kong destroyed Lancashire's cotton industry. British farmers faced ruin as cut-priced Argentine beef, Chinese liquid eggs and barley from other countries flooded into Britain. Again Mosley campaigned against the vicious effects of free trade, advancing his Britain First policy of exclusion of these unnecessary imports.

Indeed, the 1939/45 war was partly a war to make the world safe for free trade, and the lower wage standards of coloured countries that went with it.

in Great Britain and is also a contributor to the book and joint editor with Colin Holmes.

Colin Holmes, also joint editor and a contributor, is a

Lady Thatcher's 'visitors' stayed on as illegal entrants

When the war was over, once again the Tories led the way. Britain was inundated by West Indians throughout the 1950s. Mosley warned again and again that they were brought in to create a pool of cheap labour. Later the Heath government admitted thousands of Asians from Uganda. There were also many others who came as 'visitors' under Lady Thatcher but stayed on as illegal entrants. To these Tory governments we owe Britain's 5 million immigrants - and a massive drug problem.

But while Britain was destroying herself as a European nation, the industrialisation of Asia gathered pace. There are now about a dozen small Asian sweatshops on the so-called Pacific Rim working flat out on wages no British worker would accept. Towering above them is Communist China with the fastest-growing economy in Asia and 1,000 million well-drilled people on the lowest wages of all. Mosley predicted this in 1932 in his *Greater Britain*, and indeed, he and his new British Union rejected the doctrine of free trade root and branch.

William Rees-Mogg has said in the *Times* that China will dominate the world in the 21st century. Bill Jamieson has said in the *Sunday Telegraph* that over a third of international investment is being poured into these sweatshops. Low wages and high investment in the East amount to a deadly threat to the whole Western way of life.

If Britain continues to cling to this free trade doctrine much longer, and it is supported by all establishment political parties, John Major being its current exponent, this threat will become grim reality.

Professor of History at the University of Sheffield and has published extensively on the history of anti-semitism and immigration. (Ed)

Johnny Hapgood

WITH DEEP REGRET we report the death April of **JOHN HAPGOOD**, one of a large Hackney family of Mosley supporters. His father was active in British Union before the war and 'Johnny', after Army service, very active in the early days of Union Movement, with his brother Eddy and several of his sisters. He was one of Union Movement's candidates for Hackney in the 1950 Borough elections.

Our picture shows him (left) in the new Union Movement Drum Corps in its first march on May Day 1948. With him his old comrade **ERIC SIMPKINS** who had been in British Union's Drum Corps. Eric, husband of our PM of HM, passed away in April 1988.

Alf Harding

ANOTHER one-time East London British Union member who passed away on 4 March, **ALF HARDING**, was also Hackney Branch. He moved to Harrow just before the war to take up a post with De Havillands (Later to become Rolls Royce) and remained there until retirement. He continued to support Union Movement for many years and in his last two years became a *Comrade* reader.

Robert Ireland

ROBERT IRELAND, who we have just learned died suddenly at Raynes Park, age 72, on 23 January had been a *Comrade* reader for four years. He had heard Mosley speak in Dundee in 1937 when 16 and 'I was impressed', an impression which was to last to the end of his life. For reasons unknown he never joined British Union or Union Movement but nevertheless maintained a close interest throughout his life.

He told *Comrade* that in 1940 he was arrested under Sections 1, 2 and 3 of the Official Secrets Act for espionage. After 18 weeks he was released for lack of evidence to charge him. He then joined the Army and ended his war in an Intelligence unit in Burma!

When he asked to join *Comrade* readership he wrote that he hoped "our relationship would be a long and happy one". It was not to be very long but we feel it was a happy and fulfilling one.

We offer our condolences to Mrs Ireland.



Walter Hill

AS we go to press we learn of the death in 1992 of **WALTER HILL**, 1939 District Leader of Belfield. Called up as a territorial he handed over to AFO and London speaker **CHARLES GREENWOOD** who was to be killed in action in the 8th Bn Parachute Regt on D Day 1944 and is remembered in our Roll of Honour in this issue. **Charlie Greenwood** had married **Walter's** sister **MARGARET**, a Wood Green member in May 1939.

Walter Hill's Blackshirt history followed him in the Army but was nevertheless commissioned in 1941. After the war he devoted his energies to youth work in Crawley "having little more than an intelligent contempt for the existing political parties" he wrote to OM in 1969. He then told OM that "I was deeply moved upon reading your autobiography to be reminded of my early passion for politics and to be confirmed after all those years in the knowledge that because of your insight into such matters we were the only people who possessed the write answers to the world situation as it existed then". He continued "I had considered my ideas more or less 'fossilised' at the 1939 stage, and was quite astounded to find upon analysis that I would wish to agree in every word and detail of your policies for Present and Future." It is believed he later he had a reunion at Orsay with his Leader.

And now reunited with that long, long line of old comrades who fought to prevent the tragedy of what is the Britain of today, their spirit undefeated, their honour unblemished.

Greetings—

TO

LADY MOSLEY

on her

Birthday

17th June

Old Comrades



—IN MEMORIAM—

BAINES, Derek Talbot: early Blackshirt: BUF '1' Squad Summer 1961
BENNETT, Charles: former Mayor Bethnal Green: Chairman Bethnal Green N/East Bethnal Green British Union June 1939
BOMIE, Alexander: early Blackshirt with wife Margaret nee Collins: Blackshirt and Action cartoonist: his 1930's *Bodie's Arsenal* now a collector's item 25 May 1985

BOWEN, William James: Plattling, Manchester British Union July 1939
BREDDY, John: British Union, Middlesex Regt W2.D./Treasurer: Bpping Union Movement: Member Worshipful Company of Blacksmiths and Blacksmith's Guild: Holder: Queen's Commendation Medal for Bravery.

BROWN, Charles: British Union D/L, Naverree, Liverpool: 188 British Political Prisoner: Union Movement Organiser, Salford June 1962
BROWNING, Kenneth Thomas: Exeter British Union: kln and friend of D/L 5 June 1969

BUCK, Edward: RAF World War 11
BURRING, Guy: Sailing British Union: one of five Blackshirt brothers: 188 British Political Prisoner when brother Clement in German concentration camp where he died 2 August 1965

BRENNING, Maurice: Ealing British Union, brother of Guy, Clement and two other Blackshirt brothers.
CAMPBELL, J.B.: Manchester British Union & Union Movement 11 July 1970
CAMPBELL, John: Limehouse British Union: Blackshirt Family: Gunner Egypt, Italy, Palestine World War 2 June 1981

CLARKE, Bill: Union Movement Treasurer N/W London Br. 1970/74 June 1989
CLARKE, Pat: Grantham Branch British Union June 1937

COLE, Captain T.E.: Burgess Hill British Union May 1939
CORREY, Bill: Bury Laces British Union & Union Movement July 1975
DOVANY, Capt. B.D.E.: British Union Asst. D/Gen. 1940: 188 British Political Prisoner: married to Women's Drum Corps Drum Major Heather Bond: World War 2 at 16: in Arabia with Lawrence: 129th Baluchis D.C.O

DOVANY, Victor: son of 'Bowie': 188 British Political Prisoner: then RAF 27 June 1975
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COMRADE

Incorporating ACTION and UNION

Newsletter of Friends of O.M.I.



No.40

'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'

AUGUST-OCTOBER 1993

'LET CHINA SLEEP.....When she awakes she will astonish the world'

German Kaiser Wilhelm 11, 1908

'NO LIMITS ARE NOW SET...to the backward labour of the Orient in competition with the skilled labour of the West....that tendency is bound to increase to become a deadly threat to the whole white standard of life....to Western civilisation itself' Oswald Mosley, The Greater Britain, 1932

MOSLEY'S EAST LONDON

FROM EAST LONDON in the plain words of a real EastEnders, the part played by Mosley and British Union in the 1930s we publish in this issue.

Of the hope given to a poor but proud, deeply patriotic tightly-knit people who the political system had consigned to permanent deprivation and want, and of the affection returned to the man who remains ever in their hearts, wherever they now be, of that staunch and loyal breed.

GEORGE RENSCH put pen to paper on reading a letter from an academic asking for information on British Union in the 1930s in his local paper and decided it was time to 'stand and be counted'. He still lives in his beloved Bethnal Green not far from where he was born where his father, gassed and wounded three times in the war that was to end all wars and unable to work told him "Mosley was right". Times were hard and it was 'a job to make ends meet'. As a youngster he witnessed the increasing mass support for Mosley's Blackshirts. If the war had not come when 17 he would have joined but his support for Mosley lasted a lifetime and adds some significance for those academics who now study the British Union story.

Joining the RAF in 1940 he served for 6 years in Africa and Italy during which his parents survived the demolition of his home by a land mine and 1,000 bomb which also demolished his local pub and a shelter killing 21 neighbours.

It is timely that it is told when again media and political hacks are peddling the old lies, though grudgingly admitting sixty years late Mosley's East End support, because some of today's EastEnders, whom they scurrilously attack, have had enough of being second class citizens in their own country and elected a candidate outside the corrupt party game.

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THE NEXT SUPERPOWER? SWEATSHOP CHINA

Threat to the West

By ROBERT ROW

BRITAIN has fought one great war to end all wars, and another to wipe fascism off the face of the earth. In both cases we were told the outcome would be a better world. Freedom and peace would flourish among the nations.

What we have got today however are continual conflicts and a great many dictatorships. Amnesty reports cast a lurid light on their doings. Since 1945 there have been approximately 200 wars both large and small, innumerable armed coups against elected governments, and now bigger industrial nations are squaring up for trade wars.

So much for the better world.

How many of our public leaders during the second world war foresaw the present state of the world? The vast majority. The vast majority, solely preoccupied with the defeat of the 'evil' fascist states stood unmoved when tens of thousands of enemy civilians died horribly as Dresden, Hiroshima and Nagasaki were efficiently incinerated. Some even regarded these crimes on this grand scale as the spectacular finale to a 'just war' before peace and freedom could reign on earth.

The 'Big Three' who led their alliance to victory, Churchill, Stalin and Roosevelt, appeared veritable Titans in 1945

and were acclaimed as such by our public men. Yet it is remarkable that the ideas they represented have been swept away in the peace they planned. The first to go was Churchill's old-fashioned British imperialism. Next, though it took longer, was Stalinism. Despite its array of tank armies it has perished nonetheless because of its own Marxist 'contradictions' and other factors. Boris Yeltsin sits, somewhat precariously, in Stalin's chair in the Kremlin today, though Russia remains, as Churchill correctly described it, "a riddle wrapped in a

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The Commemoration Dinner

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED NOW - COMPLETE INSERT

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

"What though we ourselves
are written,
This, our faith can never
die!"

BROCKING AND DAY

First Official Casualties
George T, 22, & Kenneth G, 20,
RAF 9 Sqdn: voluntary air
gunners and Blackshirt comrades;
killed in action Keil Canal bombing German Fleet
second day of war: Brocking
remembered on Air Force Memorial,
Runnymede with 20,546 other Allied
airmen with no known grave: Day first
buried with full military honours by
Luftwaffe at Cuxhaven Cemetery: now lies
in Becklingen War Cemetery, Soltau,
Germany.

4 September 1939

BROOKING, Clement: Blackshirt
speaker, NHQ Admin Officer and
Parl. Cand. Wood Green: one of five
Ealing Black-shirt brothers: died German
concentration camp when brother GUY in
British concentration camp: at 31:
lies in Cracow Cemetery, Poland.

17 August 1942

LUMB, Pte. W.F.: REME reservist:
Norwood British Union: killed in action
Normandy: remembered Services Panel,
Norwood Cemetery.

27 October 1944

LUCAN, P/OFF Dennis DFM: RAF
(VR): 207 & 607 Dambuster
Sqdn: age 21: killed in action over
Kembs Dam: lies in Durnbach Cemetery,
Germany.

7 October 1944

YEATMAN, St./Sgt F.J.: Glider
Pilot Regt Army Air Corps: age 28:
killed in action Arnhem: lies in Oosterbeek
War Cemetery, Holland.

24 September 1944

1 CHINA

So far, it seems, Roosevelt's American democracy has survived the trials of 46 years of what passed for world peace, the one and only superpower as ex-President Bush kept telling us. But the USA has been strained by many years of "imperial over-extension", as Harvard's Professor Paul Kennedy showed in *The Rise and Fall of the Great Powers*. And now Britain's Lord Rees-Mogg and a growing number of other commentators predict the rise of China over the USA in the 21st century.

'Let China sleep'

Let China sleep said the German Kaiser Wilhelm II in 1908. "When she awakes she will astonish the world". The Great War erupted soon after and he was lampooned as the clowning 'Kaiser Bill', his 'yellow peril' warning dismissed as fantasy. But he was a far-sighted man.

China is now awake and will dominate the world Lord Rees-Mogg has kept telling us in the *Times*, and the 21st century only seven years away. Britain was a top ranking power with the greatest empire on earth when the Kaiser issued his warning. Sleeping China mattered little to us then.

China today is a top-ranking world power but Britain reduced to a small island in the North Sea by the fools who governed us and led us into World War 2. Our defence forces continue to vanish but our gangsters ever increase. The English seem to have lost the will even to win Test matches; the Chinese believe their hour in history has arrived.

Rees-Mogg tells us that Europe - which includes Britain - is 'weak' because we are a 'high-cost' continent which cannot compete, a view parrot-cried by financial hacks and professors of economics. Against who are we competing one may ask? The answer comes from the *Times*: "Labour costs in Czechoslovakia are a tenth of those in Germany" but "labour costs in Korea are a hundredth of Germany's".

Rice Bowl standards for Britain?

Sweated labour is what we are competing against, bad enough in Eastern Europe but times worse in Asia. Rees-Mogg says we have no choice which obviously means here. We have got it wrong. Out

must go the Western world's pursuit of higher wages which in reality means wage reduction and decreasing standard of life. Rice bowl standards suit us better. That's the way to compete!

"Free Trade" humbug - International Finance the only winner

All the parties in the political establishment, and indeed the USA, take the same line. John Major wants a system where sweated labour holds all the advantages which he calls 'free trade'. In reality this stands for the freedom of Eastern sweated industry to undercut the West on world markets, and for the vultures of international finance who equip the East to gorge themselves on the profits.

But Korea is only one of a dozen sweatshops spread along the western rim of the Pacific. Soemthing more is China, the giant among pygmies.

This land of well over 1,000 millions may have abandoned the dreary theories of Marx and the little red books of Mao for its own brand of capitalism but it remains a police state. Besides a vast army of well-drilled peasants and industrial workers it has "20 million in its prison camp network" according to Robert Chambers of the International Society for Human Rights writing in the *Times*.

China has about 1,000 of these prison camps where prisoners are 'reformed through labour' and those who don't jump to it receive a charge of up to 50,000 volts from the electric prods of the guards. Some are small camps but others are large, like the so-called *Lingyan Motor Vehicle Industrial Corporation* which covers 3,300,00 square meters and produces trucks and tractors.

The Lingyan vehicles are exported to Thailand, the Philippines and other Asian markets at rock bottom prices since the bulk of the prisoners get no wages.

This is sweated labour at its most diabolical, the ultimate, and there is nothing in the 'free trade' system to prevent these exports swamping Britain's markets. How can a Tory government protest when it has sold the pass and now even buys our Army uniforms from the sweatshops of Morocco?

This is no temporary embarrassment. Sweated labour on a vast scale is here to stay. Industrialisation of

the low-wage East will continue and there is all Asia to spread to. South America is not far behind and Mr. Ushewokunze, Commerce Minister in Zimbabwe in darkest Africa says he intends to emulate the Chinese "work ethic"! International finance will give him his chance. Its profits are highest where wages are lowest.

In short, a great economic sea change is taking place. Through the infernal 'free trade' system the low wages of the globe are being industrialised to take over the markets of the West, and the first casualties will be British jobs and living standards.

China's planned onslaught on West

China has planned its onslaught on the West with military precision, and they do not suffer the Western delusion that it is a peace-promoting exercise. It is coming from 19 "enterprise zones" in South China which funnel their exports to the outside world through bustling Hong Kong. And one thing of which we can be sure. Its wage rates will remain low. A regime that could commit the Tiananmen Square massacre will be capable of holding down pay claims for a considerable time.

Such is the new and formidable trade competitor arising in the East. Nothing could suit them better than the propaganda for GATT - the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, set up by the Americans to regulate trade and commerce after the last war. An all-seeing bureaucracy it has operated under false colours since its inception. It spun a glittering web of rules and those of most importance are that all trade barriers hinder trade and bad. Protectionism is wicked, even when done to protect Western living standards. It is unfair to nations which pay sweated wages. More free trade means more world peace. That's why we have had 200 wars instead, most of them since its inception.

Mosley warned again and again

But none of this is new. Oswald Mosley in *The Greater Britain* in 1932 said that "The development of Oriental labour for mass production purposes is only in its early stages. That tendency is bound to increase to become a deadly menace to the whole white standard of life". The industrialisation of the East would become "a deadly threat to Western civilisation

itself...No limits are now set"; how prophetic that was.

When these words were written, Japanese cotton workers paid fourpence an hour were capturing Empire markets from Lancashire. Their wages have risen considerably since then but Japan now makes cars which have captured the American domestic market from Detroit and the process of exploitation has spread from Japan to other countries on the 'Pacific Rim' - South Korea, Hong Kong, Taiwan and others - which now pay sweated wages to out-perform the West, and in some cases to out-perform Japan.

China with its 1.2 billion thoroughly regimented people on a very low standard of life now follows Japan. Textile workers in Sichuan earn six dollars a week compared with the average 250 dollars earned by the equivalent worker in North Carolina. I can remember when the world's bicycles were made in Birmingham. Today the China Bicycle Company alone produces 30 per cent of the world's bicycles and exports 95 per cent of its production.

With the loss of power and a vanishing British Empire and the threat of the East to the West delayed by World War 2, Mosley again advanced the answer from 1950 onward. It is to unite Europe fully and insulate its whole economy against all low-wage competition from outside. The half measures of the Maastricht Treaty are no answer to this threat. The Americans could do the same with great advantage to their country instead of getting into what appears now to be an impending trade war with Europe. If China threatens to rise above the USA by out-performing it in trade, the logical solution is to exclude all Chinese products from their domestic market. World trade would decline but Europe and America can live greatly with less of it, and more autarky at home.

Britain can no longer stand alone against this threat. The fools who got us into the last war and lost us an empire saw to that.

It can, without losing the traditions of its proud past, renew itself and find again that purpose and greatness lost with its vanished Empire, in a completely united Europe, a Europe that needs the qualities of the British at their best, and a Europe insulated against the imports from the sweatshops of the world.



Robert Saunders, O.B.E.

GORDON BECKWELL writes:

Robert Saunders, a life-long advocate for Oswald Mosley, died peacefully in Dorchester on 15 September at the age of 83.

Towards the end of his life he wrote his memoirs in which he described his career as a Dorset farmer, senior official of the National Farmers Union, local county councillor, water deviner and director of many agricultural business enterprises.

About two-thirds of the way through the volume under the heading of British Union he wrote "I now come to the most important part of my story". He then tells of the journey that took him from an acutely shy young man into a public speaker who could hold an audience of 5000 captivated on Weymouth Sands.

'Farmer Bob' joined the Dorchester Branch of British Union in 1933 and became the District Officer for Dorset West three years later. His commitment to the cause was total: in a typical month he would spend six evenings selling the Movement's papers, 12 evenings handling administration and from June 1935 to June 1940 he attended 169 meetings and spoke at 125.

His initiation to oratory was a real baptism of fire. He had hired and filled a large Dorchester hall at which Raven Thomson was to speak. As the audience waited he was handed a telegram: Raven would be an hour late. Bob had never spoken publicly before and even became nervous on entering a room containing friends. By an immense act of will he mounted the rostrum and spoke until Raven hurried in. To Bob's amazement not a single person left the hall during this longest hour of his

LAST POST

THEY MARCHED WITH MOSLEY

life. This alone should have qualified him for the British Union Bronze Distinction that he was awarded in 1937, an award which was "a sign of The Leader's appreciation of his service and dedication to the Cause".

He visited London frequently and was one of the thousand Blackshirt stewards that marched out of the Black House to defeat the organised Red onslaught on Mosley's Olympia meeting and was also present at 'Cable Street' and as a steward at the mammoth Earls Court Rally in July 1939.

Bob worked closely with BU's Regional Inspector for Wessex, Ralph Gladwyn Jebb, who became the Movement's parliamentary candidate for Dorset West. Together they spread their net wide and such cream-tea thatched-cottage villages as Abbotsbury, Cerne Abbas and Tolpuddle all echoed to the combined rhetoric of Saunders and the great 'Jebb of Wessex'.

During all those years of campaigning Bob was only punched once and never hit anyone: a fact he attributed to the media-fabricated Blackshirt reputation for thuggery.

Regulation 18B claimed the 29 year old District Leader in June 1940 and he was detained at Walton Gaol and Ascot and York Concentration Camps until September 1941. Before his arrest however, he managed to keep the local membership lists out of the hands of the Special Branch by typing them on thin sheets of paper and hiding them between the pages of Encyclopedia Britannica.

Come 1946, Robert Saunders, his spirit unbroken, organised the Wessex Book Club for OM, prior to his return to political life. Then in February 1948 he was 'back in business' as the local Branch organiser for the

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Above left: The Leader presents farmer BOB SAUNDERS with Union Movement's Award Badge for Sustained Service at the Annual Conference in October 1954. Right: ARTHUR SWAN (centre) with comrades Harold Manning and Denis Gourdon in Peveril Concentration Camp, Isle of Man, 1942. Left: ARTHUR 'WAKEY' MASON sentenced to 6 months hard labour at Douglas for stealing a motor boat to escape from the Isle of Man.

Arthur Swan

At his home in Cheltenham in June, old comrade Arthur Swan died. He was 83.

Born in Lowestoft, Suffolk, he was of a long line of fisherman and until the 1970s there always been a Swan to man the Lowestoft lifeboat since 1803.

In his unpublished memoirs Arthur Swan tells of how in the 1930s depression, the demand for fish declined and Lowestoft fisherman suffered badly and "more and more boats were pulled up on the hard, many never to be pulled off again and they just rotted away." He became increasingly puzzled why "many hundreds of fishermen were unable to sell the fish they caught to feed the millions of hungry people who in turn could have been employed making the necessities of life that the fishermen badly needed" but instead were "subjected to the humiliation of the Means Test". He and others then formed a local group to discuss the cause of unemployment and later George Surtees, one of its members asked him to be his guest at the Norwich, Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft Chambers of Commerce annual dinner where the guest speaker was to be Sir Oswald Mosley. Both were impressed by the speech which was received with great enthusiasm and were in full agreement on OM's views on unemployment and his indictment of foreign investment. The result was that they immediately formed the local branch of the BUF, with himself District Treasurer and 'Squire' Surtees District Organiser. Surtees, an RFC pilot in the Great War and held the DFC with Oak

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Arthur Mason

Suddenly in July at his "Mason's Place" home in South Australia to where he emigrated in the 1950s, Arthur 'Wakey' Mason really first found his 'place' as a young 20 year old Blackshirt in the early days of British Union and for sixty years his bond of comradeship with those alive, and with the memory of those passed on, and his loyalty to Mosley never faltered.

He worked for a time in the Registry of the Black House NHQ in Chelsea, 'Francis Hawkins office boy' he has quipped. He also was the driver of the BUF's three-man Agricultural Tour that disseminated pamphlets and held instant meetings in country villages. Later, after the birth of Limehouse Branch in 1936 he became District Leader for a time. There was little he would not 'have a go at' and in 1939 he was one of a number of BU men who took over a Spanish ship being held in Jarrow during the civil war, and sailed it to Bilbao, a story yet to be told in "Comrade".

Detained without charge or trial during the war he escaped twice, tunneling his way out in the Isle of Man concentration camp as previously featured in "Comrade". It was there that 'Wakey' entered his title, from his "Wakey, Wakey" early call to sleeping comrades!

The holder of the Movement's Bronze Award "for service and dedication to the Cause" it was OM's wish that he should personally present the Award.

Many years later he still served and received OM's personal thanks for help given in arrangements for

Turn to Page 7

'He was a man of the people. He was something rare'

BAXENDALE STREET in Bethnal Green, East London where I was born was the venue for many meetings held by Mosley's Blackshirts in the 1930's and Sir Oswald spoke there on a number of occasions. There was much local support for him by the people who lived in the area. The crowds were enormous, spilling out into the surrounding streets and there was hardly ever any trouble. As a youngster I was much intrigued at the time and through the years saw Mosley gain more and more support.

There was also in Baxendale Street and throughout East London, unlike today, poverty, unemployment and want. I lived with my sister, mother and father and my 'Mum' had to let rooms to pay the rent. We went through hard times my father not being able to work because of his wounds from the First War, and there were many other families with the same problems. When older East Londoners, looking back are hear to say it was a job to make ends meet, they really mean it. Nobody who was not there knows the facts. Many have written about those days but very few who wrote actually suffered themselves. God knows, we had marvelous parents who could produce a meal out of nothing and they deserved something better. I remember my father, wounded three times and gassed in the war telling me how right Mosley was.

The old parties offered nothing, and that's all of them. There was not another politician who had the courage to challenge the system of the City of London finance houses ruling all the parties at that time, and that still applies today.

That's why we needed a man like Mosley, a man far beyond his time, a born leader. He had proved himself to be a man of the people and that's why he was so welcome in East London, and there were not many who spoke out against him. Above all he brought us hope.

What trouble there was in East London as the

He was Mosley

By GEORGE RENSHAW

Blackshirts could be seen to gathering support was caused by the Communist Party. They had a headquarters at the Salmon and Ball, Bethnal Green called Unity Hall. They had many Jewish supporters who parades about shouting slogans but did not seem to gain any support from the locals whom they seemed to alienate because they mostly looked foreign. The Blackshirts only defended themselves against organised violence - the same as the extreme Left do today - and they were good at it and it only helped them to gain more support.

It was in the summer of 1936 that it must have become clear to many in East London that the support for British Union was rapidly increasing. Heading a march of his Blackshirts from Westminster, Mosley was met at Victoria Park by over 100,000 people who had come to hear him speak. As

they marched through East London the marchers were met by scenes of extraordinary enthusiasm. East Enders crowded the pavements; hundred saluted the Blackshirt standards as they passed. It no doubt shocked the Communists and their Socialist allies who had long regarded East London as a 'Red Stronghold' and led to the disgraceful scenes that took place at what was to become known as 'the Battle of Cable Street' three months later.

It was on October 4th, 1936, a warm late summer day if I remember, and the Blackshirts were to hold what was I believe their Fourth Anniversary Rally. Mustering in the Minories, Tower Hill, they were to march, headed by Mosley, along the Highway to Limehouse where he would speak. They would then continue to Bow and Bethnal Green where he would speak again, and finally



for his last meeting at Shoreditch. These were all areas where it had been shown there was support and Mosley's audience would have probably been in hundreds of thousands.

For weeks before the Communists and their allies had been openly campaigning to stop the march by violence. On the day coachloads of Reds from all over the country were brought in to this end. It was not the local people who were opposed to the march as the court and police records show of those arrested. Their sole purpose was violence, not only against the Blackshirts but also against their other sworn enemy, the police, who in fact suffered many casualties at the hands of the Communist Party led mob with its fellow-travellers and those other foreign yokels. As well as the police a few Blackshirts were injured when hundreds of their heroic opponents, armed with barbed-wire covered chair-legs and other weapons fell on the first handful to arrive at the mustering place.

In view of the fighting going on half-a-mile away between the police and the mobs, the Commissioner of Police banned the march and Mosley, who believed in the rule of law, headed his Blackshirts with flags flying and to the beat of the drum

As they were - the real East Enders



HOW IT WAS. Greetings for the man that gave them hope outside the Seaman's Hostel, Salmon Lane, Limehouse, October 14 1936, ten days after East Enders had supposedly 'finished' Mosley at the 'Battle of Cable Street.'

back to Westminster. These disgraceful scenes provided an excuse for the Government to pass the Public Order Act which included the banning of political uniforms. In reality it was an attempt by the old gang political parties to block the progress of Mosley and his Blackshirts.

So with 1937, East London no longer saw the men in Blackshirts but this had the opposite effect to that intended by Mosley's opponents. More and more people flocked to join his British Union and he continued to hold mass street meetings with out any serious opposition.

This was proved to the hilt in March 1937 when the Blackshirts tested their electoral support for the first time - in the London County Council Elections. Despite the fact that you had to be over 21 and a householder, that is heads of families, the two Blackshirt candidates in Bethnal Green, Raven Thomson and local organiser 'Mick' Clarke, received 23 per cent of the vote, and in next-door constituencies of Shoreditch and Limehouse, whose branch had only existed for 9 months, around 15 per cent of the vote. These areas were the very heartland of East London, and the areas where, according to Communist make-belief assisted by a hostile Mosley press, the 'workers had arisen against him' six months previously at 'Cable Street'.

I remember that election well. British Union had committee rooms in many local houses and the atmosphere throughout Bethnal Green was electric. Mosley spoke at an eve of poll meeting at Victoria Park Square after earlier speaking to huge audiences in Shoreditch and Limehouse. The enthusiastic crowd was so packed that it was impossible to get nearer than about 300 yards from loudspeaker van. I can still remember some of his final inspiring words. He told us that the spirit of our fathers was still within us and that to a vote that could give a lead to England and strike the first blow for the Greater Britain that could and should be ours.

After the elections,

support for British Union grew more and more and the activity on the streets was in incessant. Meetings were held regularly at Victoria Park Square, St. Mathews Row, Cheshire Street, Mare Street and many other venues in Bethnal Green and similar activity I believe went on in Shoreditch and Limehouse. Bethnal Green's 'Mick' Clarke, who just out of his 'teens was the first with one or two others to start the Blackshirts in East London a few years previously, was the finest speaker in East London. I also recall Harry Batton who had an eel stall in Bethnal Green Road where many stallholders would give the Mosley salute as our British Union lads frequently marched by to meetings.

MOSLEY was constantly on the lips of the local people. There was something about him that would make the ordinary man know what it was all about. People flocked to hear what had to say wherever he spoke and the applause was like hysteria. You had to see and hear it to believe it. In East London he was a man of the people.

There are some today who talk about the 'Fascists' of the late 1930s but for the most people in East London they were Mosleyites.

Despite the hardships of their daily lives, East Londoners had one thing to hang on to. They were proud to be British. The old political parties it seemed had relegated them, and many such areas of our towns and cities, to permanent poverty. The country stagnated and none seemed to have any real answers to this problem of poverty in the midst of plenty. The country needed change and Mosley offered a new way to get things done. I do believe that had it not been for the war, Mosley would have won office. So that war that lost us an empire, relegated us to a third-rate power and brought many of the problems that beset us today, also brought about the tragic loss of the service of Mosley to this once great country.

But in the late 1930s we still had an empire of which East Londoners were also proud, and which, like

MOSLEY'S EAST END



TOP: Bethnal Green street traders show their support in the LCC elections of March 1937. BOTTOM: Mosley acclaimed in the back streets of Limehouse as British Union's 1937 May Day March moves off to Bethnal Green where he spoke to a crowd of many thousands. It was the first British Union march since the banning of the Blackshirt uniform and then, the largest

our own people was being neglected in the interests of international finance.

Britain was importing goods that we could make ourselves and putting our people out of work. Mosley would have ended all that and all within the Empire would have benefited from its wealth, and their standards of living would have improved greatly. The Empire, where all would work for the benefit of all, not for the few.

Instead we got into a war that could have been avoided and had to sell all our assets to pay for it.

We lost that and more. We have now lost our own country.

History is now beginning to prove that in the 1930s Mosley was right. Many of the old Blackshirts that are still with us, and there are now precious few, are not ashamed of

what they believed and that they were right to follow a great man like Mosley. If Mosley was still with us today, the man he was in the 1930s I believe the people would flock to him in thousands.

To return to my Bethnal Green. There were two branches, at 222A Green Street, now Roman Road, and Squirres Street, a former dairy which today belongs to Hilliers who repair and let out stalls for the market.

I was never a member of British Union. I was only 17 when war broke out but I am sure I would have joined without it. I am sure that many joined British Union because it was not a class movement. Part of the policy was that there was opportunity for all and privilege for none. To serve one's

4 He was Mosley

country for the benefit of all.

Many in East London joined British Union because it was a patriotic organisation, and our generation had been brought up that way. When war came our country came first, despite all our efforts to persuade the British people that the war was avoidable, unnecessary and not in British interests. Many Blackshirts were reservists and Territorials and they were the first to go. It is particularly poignant and ironic, in view of the treatment of other Blackshirts during the war, imprisonment without charge, trial or term set, that heading the First Casualty List were two young Blackshirts, killed in action bombing the German fleet at the mouth of the Keil Canal on the second day of the war, and details now filtering through after 50 years of young Blackshirts killed in action demonstrates a record of patriotism and sacrifice second to none.

The Blackshirt Movement was made up of people from all walks of life. They saw the Empire being exploited by the few and moving into decay. The country and the Empire needed men of vision with modern ideas such as Sir Oswald Mosley. Even his opponents admit that he had a brilliant brain and that history has proved his great foresight.

With Mosley to lead this country would still have an empire, where all partners would have benefited, with the highest standard of living for all of our peoples.

We had all the raw materials that we needed. We had the manufacturing capacity, and the markets of the sterling area. We could have traded with the rest of the world on favourable terms, unlike today when we import goods that we could and should manufacture here. It is necessary to build a good home market to compete on world markets. Our people must be asked to buy British made goods in preference to those made with cheap labour in those areas of the world where the money men have heavily invested, flooding the home

markets to saturation point and putting British industries out in the cold, leading to high unemployment and the lowering of our standard of living.

We should also not create a surplus labour force to compete against our own people in this country and not allow in any more immigrants. Many of them arrive here having ruined their own country by not becoming efficient and sticking to antiquated ideas. This country has become a paradise for many of these who get something for nothing while our own people have to contribute to their upkeep.

Before the war Mosley's ideas would have found work for the large army of unemployed by his planned rebuilding and creation of new roads and building of new houses, not flats. Many families then lived in overcrowded conditions mainly because family life still existed. Families stuck close to each other as they had little and needed each other creating a special bond. This was particularly true of East London. That family bond has almost gone today.

The finance for these large public works would have been raised by large government borrowing. When you get people back to work the money they earn flows back in the economy. When people buy more goods from British manufacturers it makes for more efficiency and lower costs which in turn help the export market because of the volume of goods in demand on the home market. There would have had to be some control over goods made by sweated labour abroad flooding our home market. To keep a balance of payments for trade outside the Empire there would have been a system of Barter - we only buy in value what they buy from us. This would have prevented manipulation by powerful financiers who control the money markets which in turn controls the economy not only of the country but the world. This planned economy would have been opposed initially by some interests in the City of London, their foreign commitments conflicting with British interests. The raising of

loans of millions for the development of foreign countries would have been diverted for British reconstruction and to the employment of our own. This is why powerful financial interests, reaching out into government and channels of communication opposed British Union before the war. Only Mosley and his Blackshirts had the courage to face up to this challenge.

Mosley and his men stood alone for the true interests and benefit of the people of this country and our Empire. We had enough problems to solve at home without getting into foreign quarrels. It was an act of suicide by Britain to commit herself to the last war, particularly when both Labour and Conservative governments had left Britain in such a weak position, despite some late rearmament, which in fact was the only way they found to solve some of the unemployment problem.

Britain should have been strong enough to defend herself and the Empire alone, nothing else mattered. Instead, apart from armaments, like today we were in a weakened position because we had run down our factories and heavy industries, this overall picture now being recognised by the emerging generation of historians who can clearly see what the war generation historians failed or did not wish to see.

Fifty years on Britain still suffers from that disastrous war which frittered away its wealth and other assets. Its economy would have already collapsed if we had not got North Sea oil. In addition its remaining wealth has been and is being dissipated to pay for the many immigrants, many of them not even from our old Empire, who have been flooding in over 40 years, and still are, despite dubious official statistics to prove the contrary. For East Londoners it has been a tragedy and a nightmare. Immigrants of all sorts have found it easy to gain access, stay here, and get housed before people whose families have lived in East London for hundreds of years, many of whom felt forced to move out because they could not live with lowered stand-

ards brought by the immigrants. Many of my generation often say that those who died in the last war would be turning in their graves if they were to see what has happened to this once great country of ours. It would not have happened if the words of Mosley had been heeded and more and more are saying so today.

At the start of the last war I was only 17 and not a member of British Union but I am sure I would have joined without the war. After the war I heard Mosley speak and was again impressed and supported him. With Britain on its way out as a world power and its Empire soon to be lost, as realists could clearly observe, Mosley advocated Europe a Nation, long before others had any European idea, with Africa the Empire of Europe. This would have given Africa a much higher standard of life as well as the only way ahead for the survival of both Britain and Europe in the new world changed conditions and in face of the menace of expanding Soviet communism. Late in the day Britain grudgingly decided to join in the move towards a Union of Europe, because the politicians finally saw their was not an alternative. Instead of leading they followed and their bungling, aided by the lack of courage of Europe's politicians in not accepting Mosley's vision in full has now brought Europe to a state of disarray.

It is a pity that Mosley is not that young man of the 1930s and with us today. I believe the people would flock to him in their thousands. There is not one politician I have known that could put over and debate on anything such as he. He was brilliant. He was a thinking man whose purpose was a better country for all its people. He was a man of the people. He was something rare. He is no longer with us but he still lives in the hearts of those East Londoners still alive and had the honour to share his fight in the 1930s, and he will live in history as one of the greatest men of our times.

This is how I saw him, and thousands like me.

BRITAIN'S FATAL BLUNDER

by **PETER MARCY**

At the beginning of the Twentieth Century Britain was involved in a minor dispute with the Boer Governments of the Transvaal and Orange Free State whose independence it had recognised in the 1850s. British troops were sent out to crush the Dutch farmers. A quarter of a million troops had to be despatched before this venture succeeded. British casualties in killed and wounded were 29,000, while more than 20,000 of our troops died of disease. This was perhaps the world's first lesson as to the fighting capabilities of guerilla forces, which reached its apogee in Vietnam. It was also a salutary lesson in the destructive power of modern weaponry, in the shock shape of the Boer artillery. Overwhelming strength won in the end and 120,000 Boers found themselves in concentration camps. Many did not survive, particularly the women and children.

An important lesson could and should have been learn-

ed by the then Prime Minister, the Marquess of Salisbury and the Colonial Secretary, Joseph Chamberlain: **War doesn't pay.**

At 11 p.m. on August 4, 1914 Britain declared war on Germany and the German Chancellor, Bethmann-Hollweg complained that "just for a word, neutrality, just for a scrap of paper, Britain was making war on a kindred nation." By the time the Armistice was signed in November 1918 8 million Europeans, including more than 300,000 Britons were dead; all the inhabitants of central Europe were on the verge of starvation; and a moral decline had set in which has continued to this day. The "lights that went out" in 1914 were never seen again.

War doesn't pay.

At 11 a.m. on September 3, 1939 Britain again declared war on Germany. By the time this, the most destructive and widespread war in history, finally ended on August 14, 1945 Britain had suffered more than 300,000 service and civilian casualties,

while worldwide the number of death exceeded 36 million. Europe's finest and greatest cities lay in ruins. Hiroshima and Nagasaki had been blasted off the face of the earth.

War doesn't pay.

With every one of these wars improved technology - "killing power" has increased enormously, and we are now at the point where the human race is in grave danger of wiping itself out.

War CERTAINLY doesn't pay.

What does it take for our politicians to appreciate the obvious? If the salutary lesson of the Boer War had been learnt we could have avoided almost all of this misery and destruction. If the avoidance of war had been British official policy throughout this century how different everything would have been! The British Empire would have evolved but would still exist, providing efficient and human rule over much of the world - and millions who have died as a result of civil wars, governmental inefficiencies, religious differences, avoidable

famines and preventable diseases would have lived.

Instead our rulers continued with their "Balance of Power" policy which almost inevitably meant sacrificing a new generation of "cannon fodder" every twentyfive years.

The Editor writes: An astonishing tribute to Imperial Britain has been made by an aide to the Somali warlord, General Aidid - Yasser Arafat's successor as leading Middle East villain. Speaking to a reporter he said that the Americans were making a complete mess of things in his country because, unlike the British, they had never had an Empire!

The British had known exactly how to prevent Somali factions fighting one another. There must be millions of people all over the world who rue the day the British Government granted self-rule to corrupt political agitators who promptly lined their pockets, terrorised their peoples and bankrupted their country's economy.

3 SAUNDERS

newly formed Union Movement and later became Constituency Organiser for Wessex. During this time Bob put his extensive farming knowledge to good use as a member of the U.M. Agricultural Committee and wrote its major publication "None Need Starve".

In the 1950s he changed his tactics and began to advance his position in the National Farmers Union so that he could influence British agriculture towards his and Mosley's viewpoint. As Delegate to the NFU National Council from 1961 to 1982 he did much to overcome farmers opposition towards entering the Common Market.

He was so successful in this work that in 1963 he was nominated for the NFU's Vice-Presidency and was considered the favourite candidate. As a man of integrity he felt it necessary to inform all of his wartime detention for his support of Mosley so that there would be no embarrassment for the NFU later. The NFU Committee commended him for "a very honourable and courageous gesture". He lost the final ballot by only one vote. No doubt a more democratic-minded candidate would have kept his mouth closed.

Towards the end of his life he donated his entire British Union/Union Movement branch correspondence files dating from 1934 to the University of Sheffield Library on the condition that they could be read by all bona fide researchers. The Saunders Papers are the only known complete set of BU branch files known to exist and included letters from OM, Francis Hawkins, Raven Thomson, William Joyce and Henry Williamson.

A few years ago Bob revealed to me a secret he had kept for 60 years but now wanted it to go on record. He had been a member of the British Fascists before the British Union of Fascists was formed by Mosley. He thought that it might have been thought that his loyalty to Mosley was secondary if it had been known.

Nobody who knew Bob would ever have thought that of him. He summed it up perfectly for us all at the end of his memoirs:

"In rejecting Oswald Mosley one great opportunity has been missed. I can only hope that another Mosley will arise before too long."

When you next head westward through the picturesque villages and hamlets of Dorset, remember the dedication of Robert Saunders

OBE who carried the words of Mosley to all of them, from Corfe Castle to Lyme Regis.

His spirit will be part of them always.

Sources: A Tiller of several Soils (1987) unpublished memoirs of Robert Saunders OBE (Dorset County Library, Local Studies Section) & Sheffield University Library. Also at Sheffield University Library **The Saunders Papers.**

3 SWAN

Leaves. A garage owner, Surtees had his own aeroplane with the Norwich Aero Club. Both were members of Oulton Broad Motor Boat Club and ran the Branch until detained under 18B in 1940. Arthur was also a founder member of the local Observer Corps and was chosen the areas representative to attend George V's Coronation 25th Anniversary celebrations. "Little did I realise as from my stand in Constitutional Hill I watched for hours the contingents from the Empire march through the great arch that I was witnessing the last of the true greatness of the British Empire." So much for his patriotism and service - he was asked to resign from the Corps because of his political activity by the Home Office during the 1938 Mun-

ich crisis.

He was arrested in the street during insurance agents round in June 1940 leaving his wife Beryl and new born baby without an income which was a constant source of concern. He was detained for 2 years and at one time elected Camp Leader at Ascot Concentration Camp.

After the war with a new life to build he remained aloof from active politics but his warmth for Mosley was undimmed. Commenting in his memoirs of Robert Skidelsky showed in his biography of Mosley that he was among the great men that England had thrown up during her long history he dissented: "For BU men and women he is the greatest".

Married to his beloved Beryl for 62 years he survived her by nine months. J.C.

3 MASON

OM's proposed visit to Australia in 1969.

His memories of the days of British Union remained intact and in many ways he was still living in that time and was a fund of information. For this and the warm link with those inspiring days we shared, he will be by this editor, sorely missed. J.C.

IN MEMORIAM

- BARSON, David:** British Union; Union Movement speaker. August 1960
- BELLARS, Commander Carlyn, RN:** Lecturer Royal Naval College; former MP King's Lynn & Maistone; British Union; "Action" contributor. 22 August 1955
- BELLAMY, Richard Reynell 'Dick':** British Union Northern Ornaiser & official historian; his 300,000 word "We Marched With Mosley" now at Sheffield University; 188 British Political Prisoner; Union Movement; at 87. 15 August 1988
- BOE, H:** Westminster St. George's British Union; founder member Brit. Union London Cab Trade Group. 9 August 1939
- BROOKING, Guy:** One of 5 Ealing Blackshirt brothers; 188 Political Prisoner in British concentration camp when brother Clement in German concentration camp where he died in 1942. 2 August 1965
- CHARLES, D. E.:** NEQ Staff, British Union. August 1936
- CROSS, E. G.:** British Union Bristol; drowned attempting rescue small boy; parents posthumously awarded Carnegie Memorial Hero Certificate for his sacrifice. 13 August 1935
- de LAESSO, Mr. J. B. A., DSO MC:** British Union; 188 British Political Prisoner with Mrs. de Laesso; founder member Norwich & King's Lynn Union Movement. August 1948
- DOMVILLE, Admiral Sir Barry, KBE CB OMG:** former Director Naval Intelligence & President Royal Naval College; founder Anglo-German "Link"; a comrade 188 British Political Prisoner with Lady Domville and son Compton; another son killed in action Crete; author of From Admiral to Cabin Boy. 13 August 1971
- DORRAN, Geoffrey:** Met Mosley in Royal Flying Corps WW1; sub-editor "Aeroplane" later Editor "Action" 1937 and "Action" columnist as 'Blackbird' (aviation) & 'Bluebird' (radio). A British Union London Area Dist./Insp.: RAF W/2: in Montgomeryshire, age 73. 2 August 1968
- DODRA, Joe:** Hackney British Union; Merchant Navy World War 2. 26 August 1988
- EVANS, E. C. 'Bobby':** Upminster; former St. London British Union and Union Movement. 17 August 1986
- FIELD, Bill:** early member Mth. London Union Movement after army World War 2. 31 August 1984
- HART, E. D.:** Research Dept. British Union; edited "Action" briefly when editor arrested until himself detained 188 British Political Prisoner; pioneer of Union Movement. August 1950
- HOGGARTH, Miss Cecilia:** sister of George, Br. Union D/Tr, Eye, Suffolk and BU & UM's Patricia. 31 August 1990
- HOLLINGTON, 'Aunt Maud':** East London British Union & Union Movement; at 100. August 1987
- HUNTER, Miss Grace:** Blackshirt daughter of DBO J. P. Hunter Chester-le-Street; funeral attended by Newcastle Central Branch Defence Force; from diphtheria. 8 August 1934
- JENKS, Jordan:** British Union Agricultural Advisor; Parl. Candidate Horsham & Worthing; 188 British Political Prisoner; author of BU's Spring Comes Again; Union Movement Agricultural Council. 20 August 1963
- LEE, Benny:** Barnsley Blackshirt miner killed Wharfedale Woodrow Colliery Disaster. August 1936
- LEWIS, Richard:** British Union D/Officer Richmond; D/Leader Twickenham. 22 August 1990
- MACE, Reg:** in Wiltshire; former British Union Asst/District Leader, Epping. August 1968
- MEEN, Randolph:** British Union District Officer, Bournemouth. 5 August 1945
- PARFITT, W. J.:** age 20; Spelthorne, Yorkshire British Union. August 1936
- PODOR, Harold:** former Horwood British Union & London District Inspector; in Canada. August 1988
- POGANS, Mrs Martha:** at 92, mother of British Union & Union Movement's Jack Rowlands. August 1977
- STEER, Eric:** Mitcham British Union speaker; 188 British Political Prisoner; Union Movement. 26 August 1954
- TAYLOR, Fay:** Top women racing driver; British Union; 188 British Political Prisoner; Union M/Ment. 2 August 1983
- WARD, Charles:** One of Birmingham's first Blackshirts; father of SOD Ward, BUF NIQ. August 1934
- WATTS, C. V. 'Charlie':** British Union D/Inspector Westminster St. George's; London Cab Trade Group Organiser; 188 British Political Prisoner, BU Camp Leader at Asot Concentration Camp; victim of M15's notorious Camp 020 Interrogation Centre at Ram, Surrey; Union Movement; one-time barrack-room comrade of Aircraftman Shaw, (Lawrence of Arabia). 26 August 1971
- WILLIAMS, Henry:** British Union NIQ Branch and Union Movement; author Darka the Otter, Story of a Norfolk Farm Sun in the Sands, Chronicle of Ancient Sunlight etc. etc. 13 August 1987
- ANDREWS, W. A.:** South Hammersmith Branch; one of British Union's oldest members. 2 September 1938
- BLAY, Thomas C. W. H.:** British Union D/Ldr Spelthorne; D/Insp. 1st London Area; Lt/Comdr RN W/2. At Falmouth. 6 September 1989
- BURROWS, T. H.:** Islington British Union. September 1936
- CALLAGHAN, Major G. M.:** Essex British Union; husband of Womens District Leader, father of three Blackshirt daughters. September 1938
- DAY, A. E.:** East London British Union; Union Movement; post-war Dub; in dealer rare books. September 1974
- DICKIN, R.:** early member Nelson and Colne British Union. September 1938
- DONOVAN, Heather nee BORD:** Womens D/Leader Westminster St. George's British Union; Drus Major Corps; married British Union's Asst/Director General, Captain B. D. E. Donovan just prior to their both 188 political imprisonment in 1940. September 1982
- ELIZABETH, Mrs 'Flo':** Slough British Union, wife of Charles, 188 British Political Prisoner; founder member Bournemouth Union Movement, later South London activist. September 1982
- GOODWIN, Phillip:** Union Movement Organiser Newport, Isle of Wight. September 1989
- HAWORTH, Lt. Col. Sir Lionel Berkeley Holt, KBE:** King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry, 2nd Bombay Lancers & 9th Bombay Infantry; Consul General Meshed, Khosasan & Fars, Khuzestan & Persian Coasts & Ireland; British Union Parliamentary Candidate for Chelsea. 11 September 1951
- JEYS, Norman:** Accrington British Union; 188 British Political Prisoner; Brighouse Union Movement. September 1990
- JOHNSON, J. W.:** British Union Bethnal Green shoemaker; 188 British Political Prisoner; U.M. 8 September 1958
- LIGHTFOOT, Leon:** British Union District Leader, Guildford. September 1938
- MARCONI, Frank:** early Blackshirt; in motor cycle accident. 17 September 1936
- MITCHELL, Andrew W.:** Glasgow Union Movement; merchant navy - died at sea. September 1950
- OPPIN, Miss Elsie:** London British Union speaker; French, German & music teacher; jailed 2 years in war for criticising Churchill; St. Marylebone Union Movement Branch Organiser. 4 September 1962
- POWELL, Jack:** Hereford British Union; from injuries after motor-cycle accident. September 1937
- ROGUE, Harold:** Manchester Exchange British Union. September 1936
- ROGERS, Mrs G.:** Bethnal Green British Union & Union Movement. September 1952
- SMITH, Reginald 'Giffy':** Upton British Union. September 1938
- BAILEY, Dennis:** Clapham British Union Cadet; adopted son of BU Inspector Peter Symes; casualty during Munich crisis. 31 AA RE(TA) October 1938
- BORN, 'Andy':** Royal Flying Corps 1914-18; British Union 1933-40; British Political Prisoner 1940-42; Union Movement 1948-76. 31 October 1976
- CLARKE, Ernest:** British Union County Propaganda Officer, Durham. October 1937
- CLARKE, Mrs M.:** Woolwich Union Movement. October 1949
- DESMOND, John Patrick: CH KBE MBE (Ind):** Superintendent Eng. PWD Central Provinces, India; Worthing British Union. 11 October 1938
- DODS, C. W. 'Bill':** S/Croydon British Union; Union Movement Accounts Inspector 1950 & Sydenham Branch UM; At Sidmouth, Devon. 12 October 1984
- FALLS, Rachael nee PEARSON:** Bournemouth British Union & Union Movement. October 1949
- FELDMICK, L. E.:** West Leisham British Union; ex RAF. October 1938
- GAMING, L.:** Leisham Union Movement. October 1949
- GOSWELL, Richard George:** N/London early Blackshirt; at 79. October 1989
- GRINDY, Mrs Marion:** wife of Leslie Grundy, British Union D/Leader & D/Inspector, Raddensfield. 22 October 1989
- HILLIS, Albert:** St. Marylebone Union Movement. October 1948
- HOSPITAL, Frank:** Blackshirt Blackshirt; motor cycle accident. 11 October 1937
- LING, Bob:** British Union District Leader, Ealing; 188 British Political Prisoner; Union Movement. 9 October 1975
- LINN, Jack:** British Union Barrow after Newcastle District Leader. October 1938
- MORSE, Miss Muriel:** British Union; early London Union Movement member. October 1990
- PODS, Ron:** Islington British Union & Union Movement. October 1987
- POZ, Dr. Peter, Ph.D:** early Blackshirt; RAF pilot 1939-46; in California. October 1988
- PRATT, George:** British Union District Leader St. Marylebone. 17 October 1989
- REDGRAVE, Fernie:** East London market trader loyal Mosley supporter; Inns of Court Regt W/2. October 1989
- REDMAN, Alexander Raven:** British Union Director of Policy; Editor of "Action" 1939/40 & "Union" 1948/55; 188 British Political Prisoner; soldier, writer, speaker, philosopher; true comrade and British & European patriot. 30 October 1955
- TILLY, Francis 'Frank':** Limehouse British Union & Union Movement; father of UM's Peter Tiller. 5 October 1975
- WALLACE, W. Vivian:** Putney British Union & Union Movement; 188 British Political Prisoner with sister, father & mother. October 1961
- WILESON, Mrs Lilian:** N/East Bethnal Green British Union; wife of 'Archie'. October 1990

Old Comrades



LETTERS

Hogswash!

ALTHOUGH I have not read the book, I would like to add further comment to Gordon Beckwell's review (COMRADE 39) of Thomas Linehan's essay in *Outsiders and Outcasts* published by Duckworth.

The suggestion made by the author that what attracted the considerable membership to the local branches in Hackney and Stoke Newington was rabid antisemitism is hogswash.

The stated reason that active members of those branches were arrested in 1940 under Regulation 18B was not antisemitism but the fact that they were engaged in Mosley's Peace Campaign against the Second World War.

In the interests of truth and historical accuracy I would like to record the words of A.E. Richards of British Union's Central Hackney branch written during his uncharged and untried detention in the Isle of Man on August 10 1941, which can be read at the Imperial War Museum (Oliver Gilbert's 188 Autograph Book/Strong Room (Special Misc P6)).

"Graft and chaos have no places in the fascist age/where all must work and in return receive a living wage/Poverty and hunger shall recede into the past,/And men shall know that Truth and Right have won the day at last."

That was the spirit that prompted ordinary people in Hackney and Stoke Newington to support Mosley and his Blackshirts.

Not good enough Mr. Linehan. You must try harder,

TIPPEX

London, E2

LAST TRIBUTE TO 'WAKE' MASON

SEVERAL HUNDRED members and supporters made their way by underground. AS we left the station the first out were met by hundreds of Reds wielding clubs with barbed-wire attached. Several of our lads including TOMMY MORAN caught it but Tommy put down about a dozen with his fists before we managed to fight our way through to our comrades on parade.... October 4 1936 stood out... for those fine lads that are gone, and those that remain as one of the greatest day's in the Movement's history.

I would not have missed it for anything.

(1936 letter on 'Cable Street')

Published for Friends of O.M. by John Christian, 101, Orwell Court, Pimlico Road, London, E8 4PP

COMRADE

Incorporating ACTION and UNION

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'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'

November 1993 - January 1994

The GATT threat to Britain: Equipping the East to undercut the West: Unwholy Alliance: America, Asia - and International Finance

WAKE UP THE BRITISH

By
**ROBERT
ROW**

WHAT a chasing after pretty butterflies. The big GATT deal had been signed and politicians and newspapermen skipped around in the "free trade" arcadia. At least \$180 billion would be added to world trade. Or was it \$270 billion - or more? John Major said it was a superb deal for Britain. It would give us 400,000 new jobs and "bring down prices".

It could do that when fully working. The plan is to slash prices. Tariffs will be cut by a third on average worldwide but in Britain and the rest of Europe, by half.

Britain a cut-price market, a cheap-jack's paradise.

It follows that a flood of sweated imports will be bound from Asia for Britain and the rest of Europe where tariffs are the greatest, the sweatshops capturing the market.

Those Asians will show Mr. Major how to get prices down! Asian imports will be so cheap that no British firm could compete. "Free trade" means the sweatshops always win.

GATT means that Asia gets the British market, British firms get the bankrupt court and British workers the dole.

60 years ago MOSLEY said Eastern competition would become a deadly menace to the West and now the stranglers are there. Foremost are the Asian sweatshop bosses but Mr Clinton, U.S.'s playboy president, is shown to be another.

Yet there has been warnings.

"Uncle Sam turns his eyes towards the rising sun" shouted the Sunday Telegraph on August 24 last. Warren Christopher, U.S. Secretary of State has said "Western Europe is no longer the dominant area of the world". Western Europe counts a lot less than East Asia now to the Clinton presidency. To in-

crease American exports he plans to supply the vast modern American equipment that East Asia requires to get the GATT deal rolling and they have gone into partnership. President Clinton aims to solve his trade problems by equipping the East to undercut the West.

And behind this unwholy alliance to bring world trade under Asian dominance lurks, as ever, the money-power of international finance.

On the date that GATT was signed a World Bank report showed that foreign investment capital flowed into the developing world at a record \$177 billion last year, and China was top of the list with a quarter of that total.

These are the forces that threaten Britain and Europe, booming Asian sweatshops paying the lowest wages on earth, equipped with American industrial technology and financed by international money-power, and our politicians and press chase butterflies and dreams.

Star performer in this unwholy alliance is in fact the American President. His first

Turn to Page 2,

"Solving his trade problems by equipping the East to undercut the West"



Clinton

HONG KONG CHARADE

WHAT A NAUSEATING charade is being played over Hong Kong where Governor Patten is highly praised for his efforts to build "democracy" in face of a hostile China.

Former sweatshop of the cotton trade

Democratic Hong Kong? Tell us another. It is 150 years since Britain seized it after the opium war with China. It duly became a British Colony, notorious for its exploitation of child labour and went on to become the sweatshop of the cotton trade, helping drive Lancashire into the grave.

In recent years it has become a big "free trade" city full of banks instead of cotton mills. There never was any claptrap about democracy but now Mr. Major, who once wanted "to be at the heart of Europe" is rushing in to build a house of cards labelled "democracy" four years before sweatshop China takes over. Mr. Major hopes to retain a "stake" in Hong Kong before it is too late.

And suddenly we hear a lot about the importance of 'democracy' there. The City of London always worked with a hand in each other's pockets and now a Tory government cannot wait to bestow the party racket on this unlovely example of Eastern capitalism.

British Union
ROLL OF HONOUR
1939 1945

BANGS, Lt. Jack P.L.R./Suss-
ex Regt. (attchd Gloucesters): 20: killed in action Stampersgate, Holland: one of three Brighton Br. British Union lost in in WW2: lies in Geel Cemetery Belgium. 3 November 1944
BUCKNELL, Sgt. Ronald: RAF (VR): RAF 83 Sqn: 24: missing Berlin Op: Croydon British Union: remembered Air Force Memorial, Runnymede. 15 November 1944
BURTENSHAW, Flt. Sgt. D.F.: RAF (VR): RAF 156 Sqn: 22: missing Berlin Op: one of three Brighton British Union lost WW2: remembered Air Force Memorial, Runnymede. 3 January 1944
GILLIES, W/O John H.: RAF (VR) RAF 511 Sqn: crashed off Portreath, Cornwall: one of pupils of Leytonstone City High Schl who joined Leytonstone Br. British Union lost in WW2: 26: remembered Air Force Memorial, Runnymede. 30 November 1943
GRANT, Sgt. F.A.J.: RAF (VR): RAF 102 Sqn: 22: lost on Mannheim Op.: Baling British Union, editor Br. newsletter 1939/40: lies Abbeyville Communal Cemetery France. 6 December 1944
MORGAN, G.W. 'Jock': A/B, RN: lost HMS Repulse off Malaysia: 23: Limehouse then Bethnal Gr. British Union: remembered Plymouth Naval Memorial. 10 December 1941
WHITE, Lt. Albert E.: RN (VR) lost HM Trawler Northern Rover: 36: Leicester British Union: remembered on Lowestoft War Memorial. 5 November 1939

But there are bigger players than Mr. Major. International finance has its eyes on China and huge sums are now flowing into the sweatshop via Hong Kong banks.

When China is fully tooled up, watch out for Nissan cars made, no longer by British workers but in the international financed China sweatshop.

Britain's Welfare State: Recast it or it bankrupts Britain

By RICHARD DAY

WHEN SIR WILLIAM BEVERIDGE, "the father of the welfare state", planned it all during the Second World War he handed the Labour Party an election-winning platform. Sir William never worked out how much his brain child would cost the taxpayer. "Social security from the cradle to the grave" was financially manageable during the 1940s, when seven taxpayers held jobs for every state pensioner. But the Labour government started piling up the cost of the welfare state. It loaded the whole apparatus with bureaucrats, one of the ways it achieved "full employment".

What a change in the 1990s!

Today the social security budget stands at well over

£80 billion. Secretary of State Peter Lilley says the average Briton in a job must generate £13 in tax every working day to finance the welfare state. It supports people Beveridge never dreamed of.

According to *The Times* in December London alone has 750,000 illegal immigrants, many on "social security". It supports all the victims of Tory failure, nearly 3 million unemployed and 1½ million on invalidity benefit. Beveridge dream has become a dump-

ing ground in the eyes of this government

As more people are impoverished by the government's failure to solve its economic problems the welfare state becomes responsible for them, at enormous rising cost to the taxpayer.

The logical conclusion to this is national bankruptcy.

But Mr. Lilley, a cold fish if there was one, says he will cut the cost of running the dumping ground. He is going to "disqualify" 200,000 from being thrown on it! None of

this will help the taxpayer one jot, the unemployed even less.

The basis trouble, over the years, is that the welfare state has grown faster than the nation's means to pay for it. This was true even in the palmy days of the 1960s when Harold MacMillan said "we never had it so good". This is because it was bureaucratic, and bureaucrats eat money. Bureaucracies are wasteful, and waste costs money. On the other hand, Britain's national income depended on an inefficient 19th century trading system in which this country was outclassed by more go-ahead competitors. The nation was earning less but the welfare state was costing more.

As long ago as 1967 it was pointed out in Union Movement *ACTION* how one part of the welfare state, the National Health Service was suffering under yet another Labour government. It told of the huge bureaucratic costs it was carrying from Whitehall down to the local level. Of the waste in hospitals and the pharmacy industry, where big business was making fantastic profits. The biggest changes under a Tory government today have been to promote big business more in the N.H.S. and take an axe to some well-known hospitals - just as Mr. Lilley is doing with the unemployed.

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BRITAIN NEEDS A NEW HEALTH SERVICE

NATIONAL HEALTH in its origins was a fine concept of social service. It has since been completely distorted by bureaucratic methods. Its cost to the nation has been swollen by exploitation and waste.

Expenditure in the current year will reach at least £1,185 million. Ministerial administrative costs alone are £100 million.

It is certain that practical men, given the chance, would quickly evolve a fairer system by which a good doctor would be adequately rewarded. Much of his paper work can be scrapped. The G.P. system changed for a more practical scheme.

WASTE IN HOSPITALS

It is certain that practical men, given the chance, would quickly evolve a fairer system by which a good doctor would be adequately rewarded. Much of his paper work can be scrapped. The G.P. system changed for a more practical scheme.

But big business appealed. It was noted in the courts that pharmacists cannot make a reasonable living unless they sell the more profitable beauty aids and luxury goods which have been laid on them. The medicine got a free hand to do as they like and sell what they like. Pharmacy in Britain continues to be hoarded, with bigger profits than ever for big business while

It warned nearly 30 years ago... "ACTION" May 15th 1967

1 BRITAIN AWAKE

success was to get the North American Free Trade Agreement through Congress. Although never North American, Mexico is part of NAFTA and certainly received vast sums of Wall Street money as a carrot to other low-wage Latin American countries to join NAFTA next. U.S. trade unionists who voted "Clinton for President" will find their jobs increasingly at stake from the rising tide of low-cost labour.

Vietnam draft dodger now leads charge!

Clinton then went on to other things at Seattle. He said he was going "to lead the charge against global recession", an ill-chosen remark for one who when of military age was too busy dodging the draft to lead any charges in the Vietnam War.

But at Seattle, on the Pacific Rim, Clinton was among his new friends like a Barnum and Bailey showman backslapping a ripe collection of villains.

The President of China, who heads a regime with a thousand concentration camps, was there. So was the President of Indonesia whose country was actually under a U.S. arms embargo for its long-standing repression of Timor during the Seattle knees-up, and

his navy goes in for piracy on the side in the South Pacific.

"buccaneers of Asian sweatshop capitalism"

But such minor details carried little weight with the U.S. President who had gone there to talk business with the buccaneers of Asian sweatshop capitalism.

At this summit of 17 heads-of-state, grandly called the Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation Forum, the business was "free trade". The British media keeps telling us that "free trade", apart from dubious economic advantages, means peace.

This was not how one delegate from Singapore saw it. He was delighted to tell Mr. Clinton and his friends that "The message of this meeting is to send shivers down the spines of the Europeans". Indeed the whole meeting resembled a conference of pirates blissfully calculating how much they can plunder Europe when the GATT deal comes into effect in a year's time.

Europeans blackmailed by Washington?

There was also more than a suggestion of menace at the grand finale of the GATT Uruguay Round, a veiled threat from U.S.'s London Ambassador, Mr. Seitz. According to the *Daily Mail* of November 11,

"he appeared to suggest" that "America's defence umbrella could be withdrawn if agreement was not reached in the GATT negotiations". This was clearly aimed at the Europeans since they were the obvious case of protection under the NATO umbrella.

Was this the reason, under duress, that the Europeans settled? Did they accept a GATT deal which will work in Asia's favour rather than see the NATO defence umbrella withdrawn? Did Washington tell European governments - fall into line with Clinton's plans for Asia's economic expansion, or you face Vladimir Zhirinovskiy and all he stands for on your own?

The fact nevertheless remains that "free trade" is obsolete. It worked well for about 50 years in the 19th century under British management. It cannot possibly work in the modern age, too many factors rule that out. No-one can make a dead theory work, not even President Clinton at his stealthiest, and any attempt to force "free trade" on the Europeans will bring an explosion against the whole free-trading camp.

As Sir James Goldsmith, in an important intervention into the debate in the *Sunday Telegraph* on November 14 suggested - there is no moral, intelli-

actual or economic case for this antiquated doctrine. There is no way of beating Asian competitors "who use the same technology, have ready access to capital and whose labour costs are 90 per cent lower than ours". If the free-traders persist in defying political reality and common sense, Britain and Europe will be driven towards Mosley's alternative - to build several great economic "blocs" or continental areas, especially a fully united Europe, capable of defending itself against Russian bogeymen, of excluding sweated imports, and curbing the excesses of international finance within its borders.

This is unlikely while Europe remains asleep but the free-traders are likely to raise her from her slumbers.

Let it not be too late. The time is now.

BRITAIN, EUROPE AWAKE!

2 WELFARE STATE

Then, in 1979, along came Mrs Thatcher who greatly increased the general size of the welfare state. Her remedy for inflation was to create 3 million unemployed, which increased both social security payments and the number of bureaucrats who did the paying. Fortunately for the individual taxpayer, the revenue "take" from North Sea oil in the early 1980s, a strictly temporary advantage, more or less paid for Mrs Thatcher's unemployment. Then Mr Major did it again in the early 1990s.

He muddled Britain into a long slump, unemployment rose to 3 million again, but this time there was no big revenue "take" from North Sea oil to cover the increased social security cost.

But it will have to be paid for in the near future. Taxation is due to rise by £41.2 billion over the next three years and it will do nothing to assist the limping Tory "recovery".

Oswald Mosley saw what was wrong many years ago. Britain's economic system was outdated and inefficient. He said "Scrap the system and build a new one". Secondly the tax system should be changed in the main from direct to indirect taxation. He also proposed to recast the welfare state. It should be run, not by the bureaucrats, but by the medical profession in the case of the N.H.S., and by employer's organisations, trade unions or insurance companies in the case of pensions, and so on. Bureaucracy should be swept away. Funds for the various welfare services should be raised by putting everybody on a contributory basis, excepting those near the end of their working lives, who would have stayed on the present system.

Under the contributory system, everyone would pay directly for the welfare service they chose and their taxes cut. They would have a choice and pay accordingly. They would take out in service as much as they put in. Their taxes would be reduced since social services would no longer be charged against taxation, except for older workers. Sweeping away the bureaucrats would also relieve the taxpayer of their salaries. Most of the £80 billion budget for social services could be abolished, making a significant fall in taxation possible.

Under the Mosley proposals, paying by the contributory method would be rather like taking out an insurance policy. People would insure themselves for health, pensions, even against unemployment, and pay for it weekly, monthly or annually through their trade unions or employers schemes. It would cost less than being taxed as at

The Commemoration Dinner

WE ARE HERE to perpetuate the memory and living spirit of MOSLEY, the greatest leader this country has ever known, and his great achievements. Those who follow him cannot grow weary or famished on the road for we are nourished by the truth of Mosley's clear cut policies that brought new life and hope.



RONALD CREAMY's words were surely shared for it was, despite inclement weather and the flu epidemic, again a full house at the 1993 **COMMEMORATION DINNER** on November 13 at a London hotel. Notable absentee was **LADY MOSLEY** who was indisposed but her message was clear: "See you next year!"

RONALD CREAMY continued: "Let us turn to our memories - as vivid today as yesterday. Remember? Of course you do. Did we not reverberate across the whole country? We saw to it that we created some foundation then for Mosley's ideas that will last through the ages. It was a tremendous hour to live through and I loved every minute of it. May you all that favour some time in your lives. I was voted onto the local council which shows we had some strength in the area."

Mosley was a man we were honoured to follow and sacrifice ourselves to in our different ways.

He then went on to relate a recent experience which to those who know him is 'pure Creamy'!

"A few days ago" he said, "I went to the excellent square in the county town of Ipswich and being the type of person that I am I joined the 'persons of a different hue'. I sat with and spoke to them and then listened to their conversation while pretending to be interested in the pigeons. Their conversation was entirely about the Welfare State and how to maximise the benefits thereof."

So I moved to the other side of the square where people of another hue congregated and found their conversation far more interesting. I was not content with just saying 'I agree with you' and found myself jumping up onto my seat and spontaneously holding a meeting in front of Ipswich City Hall to enlarge the subject of discussion. I continued for 15 minutes then saw out of the corner of my eye those 'of a different hue' converging, and not being as young as I was felt

present.

Properly costed, freed from the enormous expense of maintaining an army of bureaucrats, the welfare state would

it discreet to move on and told my new friends it was time to go. They applauded and some shook my hand and I left the square. But I did not walk alone.

MOSLEY WALKED WITH ME"

Further speeches came from **DAM HARMSTON** and **DESMOND IRVINE** who said "Let us remember that Mosley is the only Minister to have resigned from office on the all-important issue of unemployment, when his solutions were not even considered. He also urged us to stay out of foreign wars, our intervention in the last war a crime against the British people. The consequences of ignoring his policies are that this country is today in an advanced state of decay. Mosley always said that a new Movement of reconciliation must arise. Tomorrow is Remembrance Day but the Dead Battalions did not give their lives so that we can compete against Taiwan and China for the great International Casino known as International Finance that rules governments and nations."

Many MPs were paid to urge war with Germany and Mosley was imprisoned for trying to stop it. As a result of that war the British Empire was destroyed because Roosevelt demanded it as a condition of help, and a British Prime Minister agreed to it.

Now we are told there must be a 'level playing field' for world trade, meaning we must compete against the sweatshops of the East. After the war Mosley said we must learn to think as Europeans and his idea of 'Europe a Nation' went far beyond what is happening in Brussels today.

Mosley told us, he said, 'All things will be achieved in the final order of the European' and he visualised Britain as the LEADER of this development. Tonight doesn't only commemorate the past but offers a policy for the future. We must all support the idea of a Movement of National Reconciliation along the lines set out by Oswald Mosley.

BRITAIN AWAKE!"

DAM HARMSTON reminded the audience of the confidence trick played on the British people by the press over the years - TV, the Establishment and old party politicians both nationally and locally. "They told us" he said, that "we had the blessings of Democracy which were worth more than gold, so the best ideas would always be heard and allowed to prevail."

What rot and hypocrisy it was, as we who supported Mosley knew from our daily lives. Every foul and underhand trick in the book was used to suppress Mosley's ideas and close his mouth. False reporting in the press, misuse of the police and encouragement of mob violence, personal intimidation and censorship by those responsible for letting council halls, to name a few.

When you look around and see the results of the corrupt old gang's 'victory' over Mosley we can be glad in a way that our policies were not responsible for the present rock-bottom state of Britain.

Unemployment has become a way of life for millions; drugs and disease are ever on the increase; homeless people clutter the doorways of expensive West End stores after dark; old people are too frightened to leave their homes by day let alone at night; and all the time Britain is slipping lower down the world league until today, by any standard of wealth and influence, we are below Portugal and only just above Greece.

How different it would have been if Mosley's ideas had won against the conspiracy of mob and money to gag our mouths and suppress our ideas. But there is still time to do it, it's never too late. All you have to do is to speak to people about Mosley's brilliant ideas for ending unemployment and bringing together the people of our continent in a real union of the European culture.

Mosley never gave up. And nor will we."

become more efficient, less wasteful, in a word, modernised. Unless this nettle is grasped, soon, and none of the established political parties

seriously face this challenge but use the welfare state as a political football, it will eventually most certainly bankrupt Britain.

Henry Williamson revisited

LITERARY INTEREST in British Union's best known novelist continues unabated with a study of Henry Williamson and his relationship with British Fascism by Melvyn Higginbottom. Published a year ago it has only recently come to our attention.

Although the book draws liberally on previous biographies and published material, it is a skilfully presented review of the 'political' Williamson in a complete form that has not been seen before.

'Complex' is the word used most often to describe Henry but the book makes it clear that he is easy to understand if the two driving forces in his life are recognised: a deep sense of horror at the carnage of the Great War based on first-hand experience and an unshakeable belief in the ideas and personal qualities of Oswald Mosley.

It is when the book seeks to analyse the Mosley Movement that some shakiness becomes apparent. At one point, the suggestion is made that British Union was middle-class. Yet there were not many 'chalet-bungalows' in East London which British Union made its heartland with 2000 card carriers in Limehouse alone. At another

Book reviews



HENRY WILLIAMSON

WILLIAMSON: "Unshakeable belief in ideals and personal qualities of OSWALD MOSLEY"

STRACHEY: "Governed above the waist by Marx, below the waist by Freud, but no part Strachey"



JOHN STRACHEY

point it is stated that Union Movement was formed in 1948 with anti-immigration as its main plank. The post-war Movement's main theme was, of course, United Europe and it was not until 1952 that the campaign against the lunacy of creating a multiracist society was launched as the first immigrants arrived.

However, these are minor flaws as the book does Williamson great justice and is essential reading for everybody with an interest in the man who was only dissuaded from a futile flight to Germany in 1939 to persuade Hitler to make peace by the intervention of Mosley.

GORDON BECKWELL

Intellectuals & British Fascism: A Study of Henry Williamson by Melvyn Higginbottom. Janus Publishing, £9.99

Desperately seeking Strachey

MOSLEY receives very very fair treatment from Noel Thompson in his treatment of that stranger intellectual, John Strachey, recently published by MacMillan. Thompson quotes Mosley's quip that "Strachey was governed above the waist by Marx, below the waist by Freud, but no part by Strachey." Strachey's whole intellectual life, says Thompson, was, apart from a brief period in the Thirties, "given over to attempting to synthesize socialist and Keynesian economics." The author considers that Mosley's and Strachey's jointly - drafted "Revolution by Reason" of 1925 "furnished one of

the few, coherent, radical economic strategies" of the 1920s.

From 1889, J.A. Hobson had linked the periodic convulsions afflicting contemporary capitalism with an endemic tendency within capitalism to oversaving and overinvestment.... purchasing power was concentrated in the hands of those with a relatively low propensity to consume and a high propensity to save and invest." For Mosley and Strachey the answer was simple and obvious: the purchasing power of the mass of the people would have to be systematically expanded by the State. In describing the liberal-socialist programme developed by the two men Thompson says that its "underlying analysis" would have made Strachey's subsequent embrace of Communism "less of an intellectual jolt". The same might be said of Mosley's conversion to a variety of Fascism that preached heroic values without glorifying war.

The great divide between Mosley and Strachey concerned the British Empire. Mosley believed that it would be possible to "insulate Britain from the shocks of price fluctuations, organised dumping and 'slave labour' in Oriental countries" within a self-sufficient, Protectionist, Isolationist Empire. Strachey helped Mosley work out his plan for an autarchic Empire - and then without warning decided he was a Communist, supporting the Communist Party up until May 1940.

Thompson castigates Strachey for his cold-blooded indifference to Stalin's murder of most of his old comrades in 1936 and in 1937 Strachey regarded the Moscow trials as "of enormous benefit to the socialist cause." As late as December 1939 he was of the opinion that "British and French imperialism" constituted "the strongest reactionary force in the world today."

Strachey - who had a marvellous gift for clear exposition - never discovered the intellectual security and personal certainty for which he searched all his life. One can only agree with Thompson's conclusion that John Strachey was "a lover of ideas, easily seduced and possessing the dangerous capacity to enhance their seductive power."

PETER MARY

John Strachey: An Intellectual Biography by Noel Thompson. MacMillan Press £40

Racial violence

THE INTEREST of historians in the BUF continues to grow and as a continuous flow of incontestable evidence is gradually released from Government files, hitherto unfavourable judgements are having to be hastily revised.

Thus in his contribution entitled "Blaming the Black-shirts" published in early 1993 in *Racial Violence in Britain, 1840-1950*, Richard Thurlow writes that "Mosley's fascism was originally derived from the model of Mussolini rather than Hitler" and he says that Mosley was "genuinely perplexed by Jewish hostility."

It will come as no surprise to *Comrade* readers to learn from Thurlow of the intense hostility to the BUF of a number of police chiefs, including Lord Trenchard and Sir Philip Game. Yet "Fascists for the most part obeyed all police requests without question and kept the authorities informed of their plans for

processions and meetings. Communists were less accommodating..."

Comrade readers will be less surprised to learn that some anti-fascist groups "...were not regarded as genuine movements by Special Branch, but groups run by confidence tricksters..."

After the 1936 Public Order Act was passed Thurlow says that "While Communists challenged attacks on their civil liberties, fascists obeyed all police instructions. The BUF stopped wearing uniforms and dropped their paramilitary organisation. Neither of these actions appeared to have caused a decline in the organisation, however. Large fascist meetings were regularly held in the East End until 1940."

Present day historians are much concerned with racial violence and Richard Thurlow has himself devoted many years to the study of anti-semitism in particular. But no reader of this book will realise that most incidents of racial violence in 1930s Britain involved assaults by

Jews on English men and women. Incontestable evidence that this was the case is however provided in an article by Stephen Cullen in the April 1993 issue of *The Journal of Contemporary History* in which he states "Weapons used against fascists included bottles, knuckle-dusters, bricks, railing tops, stones, a scale weight, a sword, loaded rubber tubing and a bottle of Lysol."

M.C

Racial Violence in Britain, 1840-1950 edited by Panikos Panayi. Leicester University Press.

Political Violence: The Case of the British Union of Fascists by Stephen M. Cullen. *Journal of Contemporary History*. April 1993.

(Richard Thurlow is a lecturer at the Department of History, University of Sheffield, where he runs a Special Subjects Course on 'British Fascism'. Stephen Cullen is a tutor for the Open University in Scotland. (Ed)

OBITUARIES: Hilda Bellamy—her part in Mosley's Cause

NOVEMBER 10th last year marks the death of a great lady. In her 87th year, **HILDA MAID BELLAMY**, widow of **RICHARD REYNOLD BELLAMY**, British Union historian and former National Inspector, who she survived by 5 years, remained to the end a loyal supporter of O.M. and with her partner, an example of the quality of his followers and of the real meaning of Union, in all its far reaching aspects, that lay within the title to which Mosley's Movement ultimately developed.

The 17 yr old Hilda had emigrated to Australia with her father, a retired Army officer and immediately met the young Dick Bellamy, then a jackaroo in the Australian outback after a spell as a deckhand on the South America run. It was to result in joining Dick in his adventurous life and a marriage, with five children, which was to last at Dick's death for 62 years.



Chairbound Hilda and Dick Bellamy in 1986

HERBERT MANNING

IT WAS with deep sadness that after trying for some time to trace former Hackney **British Union** speaker **HERBERT MANNING** that we achieved success after publication of his photograph accompanying that of old comrade **ARTHUR SWAN** in his obituary in the last **Comrade**. It was alas to find that Herbert had passed away during a heart by-pass operation in 1992 in his 76th year. We extend our belated sympathies to Mrs. Manning who was also a Hackney member.

Detained under the 188 Regulation in 1940, he joined the Army on release and trained as a tele-printer but was then transferred to the Navy as they were short of trained communication staff. He was next attached to the Fleet Air Arm as a tele-printer operator at Headquarters in Malta. So much for the alleged reasons for the detention of Britain's **British Union** members.

After the war he became in due course an insurance agent until his retirement during which time he became a committed member of the Church of England and was a Church warden and School Governor.

In his massive unpublished manuscript **We Marched With Mosley**, Dick described their first meeting. Temporary in charge of a sheep station, Dick had ridden to receive 6,000 sheep from a livestock train where he also met his boss who he guest in his old Ford 'Tin Lizzie', "but what took my attention was the occupant on the front passenger seat, a dark-haired smiling girl, subtle and attractive."

From then my fate was sealed." He continued, "I was completely lost, and from worshipping diffidently progressed to open courtship." Entrusted to Dick by her host in that wild outback so "day after day Hilda, who had been allotted a sure-footed mountain-bred pony, rode beside me as I rounded up sheep or cattle, rode boundaries and repaired fences, and helped fill salt-troughs. She came out duck-shooting by moonlight; once before daylight we climbed a lofty ridge to watch the sun rise over hundreds

of miles of forest-covered ranges and deep, dark empty valleys shrouded in white cloud and grey mist which slowly dispersed in the growing light and warmth.

Day after day we boiled our billies together, ate our eternal bread and cold mutton, and chatted round the camp-fire with whomever of the station hands happened to be our workmates for the day; while our horses stood patiently by, heads down, reins looped over a convenient bough, and at the same time our dogs watched from a distance, mindful of that unwritten law of the Australian bush never to feed a dog at the dinner camp.

I still think of ours as a romantic courtship."

Then Dick "slipped, and slipped badly". He approached Melbourne head office for promotion as he would like to marry. He was told "with stern disapproval" that "married overseers were unwelcome, as wives

were an expensive luxury, always demanding new amenities and improvements!"

So, "I packed my swag" he wrote, and shipped it to Brisbane but found jobs non-existent so on foot joined the 'swaggies' who "proliferated during the 1920s and 30s when the tracks of the 'out-back' were never free from 'poor bastards' looking for work."

After footing some hundreds of miles Dick heard of a new Queensland Government-sponsored land scheme and with a £100 loan from England bought an isolated tract of land in the Callide Valley where there was "parrots and parakeets galore" and "bird life beyond description, from emus and brulges in plenty, also pelicans and the occasional jabiwo down to lovely little wrens". The land was "beaming with wild life... kangaroos, at least two kinds of wallaby, bandicoots and kangaroo-rats. Up in the trees were several kinds of opossum and koalas, also flying squirrels and flying foxes."

Dick, then, in 1926, 24, immediately sent for the 18 yr old Hilda who was living with her father, now a teacher at a small country school in Victoria and "she came with all possible speed to Brisbane, where I met and married her."

Thus they started their long life together "our home a calico tent, our kitchen two iron bars above a campfire, protected from the blistering sun of most of the year, and from the deluging rain of the 'Wet' by a rough shelter of sheets of bark peeled from box trees. We were supremely happy and undaunted by anything that Queensland could produce in the way of snakes, scorpions, centipedes and poisonous spiders. Nor were we intimidated by the blinding and deafening thunderstorms which herald 'The Wet' season, nor by the bush fires which were the major hazard of the dry season. At our ages... it would have been unthinkable to flinch from natural hazards, so we took them in our stride.

Turn to Page 6.



Herbert Manning and Ted Fowler in Peveril Concentration Camp, Isle of Man in 1942

Mrs. Manning tells us that the lumberjacket worn by her husband taken at Peveril Concentration Camp, Isle of Man was made out of a blanket by tailor fellow-detainee.

She also writes with nostalgia of the 1930s which she remembers well. She "selling Action 2d at meetings around Hackney and Tottenham whilst my dear husband was on the platform speaking - being heckled sometimes by Communists which he thoroughly enjoyed."

Herbert's father was killed in 1914 war and has no known grave" she continued. "Can you wonder that those young people like my husband were so angry and wanted a better life for their children. He like many others were left to be brought up in poverty, not knowing when they would get another meal."

It was not to be, but how my husband and his friends worked regardless to help O.M. to bring about a better Britain to live in."

TED FOWLER

ANOTHER OLD COMRADE whose death in Sussex on August 13th we sadly have to report is **TED FOWLER**, in his 80th year. He joined Bromley Branch of the BUF in the early days of the Movement and later became Propagan-

da Officer and was District Leader until the prescribing of **British Union** in June 1940. He was detained under the 188 Regulations in August and after the war played an active part in the organisation of **Mosley Book Clubs**, then **Union Movement** in South East London. In recent years, until infirmity prescribed it, he was a frequent attendee of **Friends of O.M.** functions.

In an recording of his memoirs in RM archives Ted told of his arrest in 1940. "I was staying with friends and was still in bed" he said. "My friends wakened me and said two policemen were downstairs to see me. I went down and they were going to arrest me". He went down and they told him they were there to arrest him and take him to Brixton Prison. "Hold on" said Ted, "I have not had my breakfast!" The policemen showed some embarrassment and one said "We don't agree with this but we have to do it" - and they let him have his breakfast.

He was taken to Brixton where he met O.M. and later was at Ascot, Walton, Hutton and Peveril, Isle of

Man concentration camps. He tells of an extraordinary event at Ascot one day of that summer of 1940. "Right above the camp gates in vapour trails from an RAF flyer appeared a massive Circle and Flash". We shall probably never know the identity of our **British Union** airman, (unless in 100 years time a file is released of his court martial!) Was he one of those numerous Black-shirt RAF men who was later to pay the supreme sacrifice and remembered in **COMRADE's** Roll of Honour?

Nearing the end of his days he recorded that although he and his comrades in **British Union** did not achieve what they set out to do, and most of his life devoted to **Mosley's** cause, he at the end, "No regrets whatever".

1944 IN MEMORIAM 1994

- BURWOOD, Mary:** wife of BU and UM 87 yr old Dicky Burwood of Bethnal Green.
DICK, Colin: BU businessman HQ Branch involved in BU films: 188 British Political Prisoner: arrested on quayside on return from Dunkirk, 1940, after rescuing some 500 troops in his machine-gunned motor launch *Advance*.
GOMING, Horace: Derby BU: 188 British Political Prisoner: founder wartime *Sons of St. George* after release: UM: at 30 from TB contracted at Walton Jail & Ascutt Concentration Camp.
JERRY, Frank: BU D/L Kidderminster: RANC: 188 British Political Prisoner: UM and Friends of O.M.
MAIN, Miss Christian: Lochinhead, Perth BU: Union Movement.
MANICO, Dorothy: BU Wom. D/L Chichester: wife of Captain F.E. Manico, D/L & British Political Pr. 12 November 1949
MARANDAL, Capt. D.M.K.: HQ Br. BU: mbr BUF Automobile Club: RFC spotter first tank battle, Casablanca, W.I.: flying training school prop.: 188 British Political Prisoner.
MENHAM, F.W. 'Freddie': BU D/L Hackney: 188 British Political Prisoner: UM Org. Hackney South.
O'DONOGHAN, Rose: wife of old comrade PAT, Shoreditch BU & S/London UM
PACKER, Charlie: UM Accountant 1948-85: Mayor of Bexley 1978/9
PARSONS, H.J.: Aldershot BU: British Political Prisoner: Union Movement.
VEALE, F.J.P.: solicitor mbr. Brighton BU & UM: Action & Union contributor: author of *Advance to Barbarism and Crimes Discreetly Veiled*.
ALLEN, Capt. Mary, OBE: ex-suffragette & co-founder first women's police force great war: Head of *Women's Auxilliary Service* 1914-40: BU and UM: under 188 house detention World War 2.
BECKETT, Mrs. Joe: wife of former Brit. Heavy Wt. Boxing Champ, like JOE, BU, 188 British Political Prisoner - in Holloway Gaol: Union Movement.
BOWLER, A.E.: Ealing British Union and Union Movement.
BRAY, Bill: D/T Birmingham Cent. & Handsworth BU: 188 British Political Prisoner: UM.
CHARLEY, John: BU D/L Hull & Parl. Cand. Hull East: City Prop. Off. Yorks: 188 British Political Prisoner: UM: author of *Blackshirts & Roses* pub. 1990 after his death.
DUFFIELD, K.T. 'Ken': Epping British Union: 188 British Political Prisoner.
ELAM, Dudley: BU's elderly receptionist at Westminster HQ: 188 British Political Prisoner contributing to his death: husband of ex-suffragette *Mara Elam*, BU Parl. Cand. Northampton also Political Prisoner in Holloway Gaol.
FRANCIS-DAWKINS, Nell: BU pioneer member, later Dir. General: 188 British Political Prisoner Gaol leading to early death at 43.
GRANT of Shoreditch: Father of family of BU supporters.
RANSELL, Mrs. Florence: Bethnal Green BU & UM: wartime collector 188 Detainees Fund.
ROLMAN, Percy: Southampton BU & UM. In road accident.
KITCHEN, Mrs. Sabina: Mother of BU & POMs Ken of Leamington Spa.
LINKLETT, Sidney: East Ham BU: severely wounded E/Surrey's, Italy, 1943: brother of John, BU E/Ham D/T, UM & POM.
PELLING, Mrs. Clara: BU Epping active member & wife of 1938/40 D/Ldr Reg Pelling: In Lancs.
ROBERTS, John: Ipswich BU & UM: At Huntingdon.
THATCHER, Mrs. May: widow of Wessex farmer JOE, who predeceased her by 6 months, and daughter *PEGGY*, who predeceased her by one month. The last of a loyal BU & UM family.
VERDAN-ROE, Sir Allott: early flying pioneer and founder of *AVRO*: lost 2 sons in flying ops in W.I.: HQ Br. BU and UM: At 80.
WATSON, Mrs. Glad: Linshe BU: Temp D/L 1940: occasional contributor to *Comrade* in verse.
WARRINGTON, Edward 'Ned': New Party and BU Manchester & HQ: lost eye in 'battle of Stockton-on-Tees, 1933: Pioneer Corps W.I.: brother of POMs John.
WYKE, Mrs. Wallace: British Union & Union Movement.
YEATS-BROWN, Major Francis, DFC: 5th Lancs Indian Army & Royal Flying Corps: author *Bengal Lancer*: HQ Branch British Union.
BAILEY, Jack: early Bethnal Green Br. BU member: UM: father of POMs *Prod & Sid*.
BALL, Eric: BU D/Ldr Epping 1938: R. Navy 1940-46: UM: at 75 in West Country.
COKER, Mrs.: British Union & UM: mother of UM Walthamstow Br. Ldr. Ernest Coker.
CORBIN, Peter: British Union speaker, Salisbury.
D'ALLESIO, Ron: First D/L BU Portsmouth, later Cheltenham: 188 British Political Prisoner.
DOWDY, Mrs. L.A.: wife of John, BU Parl. Candidate, Evesham.
EVANS, Mrs. Dorothy: widow of Bkby, BU & UM, Uxminster & Sth. London.
FITZ, Bill: Epping Br. British Union speaker.
GOOD, Anne: BU & UM speaker: 188 British Political Prisoner: QMs secretary UM.
JEBB, Ralph: Gladwyn: explorer, pearl fisherman: BU D/L Salisbury, Prop. Off. Wilts., Dist. & Reg. Inspector Wessex, Parl. Cand. Dorset West, BU Gold Distinction: 188 British Political Prisoner: At 87 in Marbella, Spain.
PRENTICE, Charles: E/London BU & UM: husband of *Rose*, UM Nat. Wom. Org. 1961: In Australia.
PRICE, Catherine Margaret & Charlie: holder of QMs Service Distinction: parents of BU & UMs Hackney Br. Org. L2N & wife *FLO*, both British Political Prisoners.
RAE, H.O.: Walthamstow Union Movement.
SUTHERLAND, Mrs. M.A. 'Ma': loyal Mosley supporter, friend & confidant of many East London BU supporters in her Stepey cafe and in UM before her retirement to Norfolk.
VALERIANI, Espinodas 'Pam': well-known BU London member & Prop. Holborn Distributing Co.: organiser Action street & newsagent sales: provided office for wartime 188 Detainees Fund: at 81.
WILLIAMSON, Hugh Ross: playwright, biographer & author incl. 1939 *Who is for Liberty*: contributor to *Action* when a Labour Party member: a good friend of Mosley Movements.

24 November 1991

22 November 1953

November 1949

November 1992

November 1965

November 1949

6 November 1968

November 1960

27 November 1986

27 November 1985

19 November 1976

27 November 1976

December 1964

12 December 1952

December 1976

3 December 1988

28 December 1988

December 1986

December 1948

25 December 1950

December 1948

December 1950

31 December 1977

8 December 1975

December 1986

14 December 1991

December 1954

December 1976

31 December 1984

31 December 1990

31 December 1984

December 1954

30 December 1944

19 January 1965

8 January 1992

January 1950

January 1981

18 January 1987

January 1976

15 January 1991

30 January 1988

Early 1979

28 January 1978

January 1981

January 1952 and January 1955

24 January 1951

January 1975

1 January 1955

January 1978

5 Hilda Bellamy

We cleared, ploughed and cultivated...Months later we raised a crop of Durango cotton and "everything burgeoned unbelievably. We had more beans, pumpkins, tomatoes and melons than we knew what to do with" but were unable to sell the fruit owing to prohibitive rail-freight charges.

But their halcyon though hard working days were not to last for within a year of the return of the Labour government in a General Election and withdrawal of the bounty on cotton and other economic measures, they found it impossible to survive so they "struck camp" and made for New Caledonia in the South Seas where, among the cannibals, they again cleared the virgin bush and forest and became coffee planters and Hilda gave birth to her first - a son.

After "three years of hard graft", a seven-day bush fire and "the worst draught in the history of the island since European occupation...there was nothing left but to sell up and get out" and for sake of the young 'Dickon' who appeared to be developing the anaemia for which European children born on the island were prone, the Bellamys' decided to return to Europe. They arrived in England in March 1931 and as the 7,000-tons *Villa de Verdun* re-entered northern waters the first news-item received by wireless and displayed on the notice board in French was: "Sir Oswald Mosley has formed a New Party."

This was to become meaningful for Dick Bellamy for after eight years abroad he had returned to Britain to see conditions that shocked him. There was about three million unemployed and "there was a tendency to

dismiss the ever-mounting numbers as a sad inevitability about which little could be done...in East Anglia...hundreds of acres of potatoes were left to rot in the ground unharvested, while a few miles away in King's Lynn foreign vessels were unloading hundreds of tons of potatoes...the displaced farmworkers ineligible in those days for employment benefit, were sent to work in stone-pits for a few miserable shillings...Fishing vessels entered port deep-laden with herring catches only to be ordered to sea again to dump their hauls, while at the same time, a few miles away, the wives and children of unemployed farm-labourers made their meal of the day out of a single herring divided between every two members of the family...vessels were entering the Pool of London with fresh milk from Holland, at the same time that



Best Wishes for
1994
to all our readers

For your diary

THE MAY BUFFET
Saturday, May 7th
Reservations now
accepted

THE
COMMEMORATION DINNER
Saturday, November 19

English milk, produced in excess not of human needs but of economic requirements, was processed into umbrella handles. In South Wales an unemployed miner was sent to prison for stealing a bottle of milk for a hungry and ailing child. In Lancashire children of unemployed cotton-workers were actually perishing from the effects of prolonged malnutrition, a polite term for slow starvation...In countless working-class homes there was cold and hunger. Yet because the 'dole' prevented the sufferers from actually dropping dead in the streets, there was wide indifference to their fate."

Although Mosley's New Party was short-lived, the idea of a new party "to infuse life into British politics" appealed strongly to Dick Bellamy and when in October 1932 Mosley launched his BUF "I was interested at once". He studied the policy and after a long talk with a BUF officer he was convinced.

"Here at last" he wrote, "was news of a movement ready to put the 'Great' back into Britain and the selfish financial interests into their proper place, but which at the same time could defeat the soulless materialism of the Left. It was the message I had been waiting for. I could not hesitate no longer. I joined."

Thus started Dick and Hilda Bellamy's long march with Mosley, a march which for both, in deep union with each other, suffered many hardships but stayed to their very end. Britain badly needs now such fine men and women.

JOHN CHRISTIAN

Published for Friends of O.M. by
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Pomona Road, London, E8 4PP

COMRADE

Incorporating ACTION and UNION

Newsletter of Friends of OM



No. 42

'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'

February/April 1994

'WE know the answer for we have felt this thing within us. In divine purpose the spirit of man rises above and beyond the welter of chaos and materialism to the conquest of a civilisation that shall be the sum and the glory of the travail of the ages. In that high fate to-morrow we live'

conclusion "Tomorrow We Live": Oswald Mosley 1938

CANADA BANS MOSLEY BOOK

His 1930's book is 'Hate Propaganda'!

By JOHN CHRISTIAN

A NEW EDITION of Mosley's "TOMORROW WE LIVE" has been banned by the Canadian Government. Printed and distributed in America, it has been added to the Canadian Government's prescribed list of imported goods. A Canadian Customs and Excise document in *Comrade's* possession prescribes the book's Classification as "Hate Propaganda".

Tomorrow We Live first published in 1938 by British Union updated his earlier *The Greater Britain* with which he launched his new Movement in 1932. It expounded "the entire Policy of the Movement, its historical necessity" and its fundamental philosophy. The first edition was sold out in 3 weeks and 6 further editions were printed by 1939. A good number of British Universities hold copies for academic research.

The American publishers told *Comrade* that "Canada is only equalled in banning and censorship by the State of Israel" and suggested that the ban could have only come about by an influential special interest group making a special application to the government requesting that the title be forbidden.

The decision to publish the American 7th edition, (actually the 9th - two were published shortly after the

war) was taken due to the increasing demand for information on Mosley's ideas throughout the Western world, much of his policies thought to be applicable to the conditions of today. Apart from a new cover, the original text has been faithfully reprinted.

But world conditions have changed radically since it was published although as the publisher suggested, much in it is relevant today. Nevertheless, surely the Canadian government has egg in its face? To ban a book after it has been freely distributed and read for nearly 60 years? The ban on the book has already increased demand we learn, and there is always more than 'one way of belling the cat'!

It is also some 60 years

The Editor apologizes for the late publication of this issue of COMRADE

NOTICE OF DETENTION

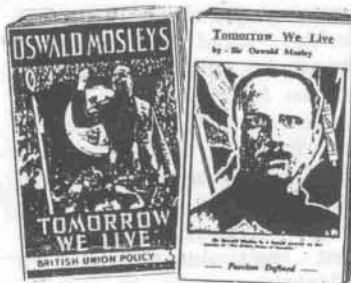
Goods have been detained for a determination of tariff classification. It has been made, you will be notified in writing.

goods / Désignation des marchandises

1 book. - "Tomorrow We Live"
CW 800 573 800 CA

☒ Hate Propaganda
Propagande haineuse

Customs and Excise
Notice of Detention



1938 Edition 1993 Edition

since those terrible Nazis had their 'burning of the books', many of them pornographic, and the democracies have held them to task ever since for that destruction of freedom of expression. Democratic governments do not burn books. They just ban them or make publication difficult with special 'race' or other laws against those who will not share the corruption of their political party game.

'The pen is mightier than the sword' is a dictum they frequently proclaim, particularly after 'just wars' such as the last one, which proved the opposite.

But in fact we can agree with them on this one. Banning the freedom to express ideas can work for a long time but in the end, an idea, a faith, cannot be permanently prescribed.

For Oswald Mosley, that greatest of Englishmen who gave his own people an idea that transcended self, that saw in the union of the European peoples 'a vision that came not before' and who summoned mankind to rise to ever higher forms.

"The Spirit Lives - The Rest Will Follow"

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

BREWER, Cpl. A.A.J.: 2nd Bn Black Watch: Domeset British Union: age 23: killed in action Burma 5 April 1944: Remembered on Rangoon Memorial.

BROOKER, Cpl. C.G.: 90 Field Regt RA after 188 British Political Prisoner 1940-42: Member Br. British Union: died on P.O.W. long march 8 March 1945: Remembered on Cassino Memorial, Italy.

EAST, Lt. Philip: 5th Bn Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders: Leytonstone British Union: age 26: killed in action Tunisia 24 April 1943. Lies in Medjez-el-Bab War Cemetery, Tunisia.

FOGG, Pte. James: 1st Bn E/Lancs Regt: Manchester British Union: killed in action, Cleve, Germany 11 February 1945: Buried Reichswald Forest War Cemetery: Age 26.

JONES, Cpl. F.R.F.: 6th Bn 14th Punjab Regt: Norwood Br. British Union: age 22: killed in action Singapore 11 February 1942: Remembered Kranji War Cemetery, Singapore.

MALLINDER, Cpl. Albert D.: 2nd Bn Queen's Royal Regt (West Surrey): age 28: N/E Bethnal Green Branch British Union: killed in action Anzio beached 22 February 1944: Remembered Cassino Memorial, Italy.

MITFORD, Maj. The Hon. Tom:

KIRC: HQ Branch British Union: brother of Lady Mosley: killed in action Burma 4 April 1945. Lies in Taunggyan War Cemetery, Rangoon.

WARNES, Sqdn/Ldr Geoff: DSO DFC: RNVR: 263 Sqdn: Leeds Branch British Union and former British Union West Riding Transport Officer: age 28: first RAF pilot with contact lenses: missing on operations off Guernsey on 22 February 1944: Remembered on Runnymede Air Force Memorial.

WATSON, A/B Cyril: Royal Navy: Central Leeds Br. British Union: age 21: killed in action HMS Hardy, Narvik, April 10 1940: Remembered on Plymouth Naval Memorial

'If there was one thing worse than the U.N. ignoring a war it was the U.N. taking charge of one'

THE RACKET known as Western democracy has reached its nadir.

A ghastly little war in Bosnia has exposed the squalor for all to see. Genocide, "the crime of the century", has been raging in Europe's backyard, and Western democracy which made genocide a crime at its Nuremberg show trial is paralysed.

What is wrong with these helpless politicians? Their system of talk has spread like a sickness across Europe and stopped anything effective being done. Men of action were ostracised. So evils have abounded and multiplied in the democratic hot-house, including a vicious new breed of criminal.

If the politicians cannot curb thugs who beat and rape old ladies in England they cannot stop the genocidal Serbs.

The only time the democrats move into action is when they sabotage those bent on cleaning up the squalor.

Mosley, Britain's man of action had his freedom of speech sabotaged for years. General Morillon, France's man of action in Bosnia, was accused of "bias" by another conspiracy in Paris and recalled. Germany, run by politicians playing safe, is even worse. It is hag-ridden by peace-at-any-price goodies 'redeeming' their country from Hitler, and those hymn-singing folk even demonstrated against the German air force being sent

GET OUT OF U.N.

says **ROBERT ROW**

New men to make Europe

to Bosnia.

When sabotage becomes a religion which glorifies weakness the villains, such as the Serbs, have the time of their lives.

The Serbs are the biggest liars in Europe. Never were so many cease-fires broken so cynically on so short a time in one small war. One word sums up their politics: treachery. No wonder, when their history is full of secret societies worse than the Mafia. One of these murder-gangs, the Black Hand of Serbia, hired the terrorist Princip to assassinate the heir to the Austrian throne in the summer of 1914. Four years of war followed which wiped out the flower of an entire British generation.

With national heroes like that one would think Western politicians would be wary of Serbs, especially when most of them communists under Tito who suddenly turned into violent nationalists under Milosevich. But no - our wet leaders petted the snake.

And while the Serbs advanced from one massacre to the next,

one gang-rape to the next, Western democrats encourage them with inertia, vacillation and unlimited humbug, before announcing yet another cease-fire. Now all this chicanery has merged into a Western programme of surrender.

British Conservatives have become accustomed and are keen on programmes of surrender. They were just the same when they scuttled from Africa 30 years ago, and look at Africa now. Any call to stop the Serbs brings Tory leaders bustling round saying it cannot be done. Resisting the Serbs would make things worse they say. What could be worse than the bloody shambles of Bosnia today!

Why are they so fearful of these Serbs? They did not scare Adolf Hitler. In April 1941, after a pro-Soviet coup in Belgrade, he sent a few divisions into what was then Yugoslavia, and they went through the Serbs like a dose of salts. The whole country was occupied in ten days with the loss of just 166 men.

What have the democrats put

in place to make the world safe from rulers like that 'wicked' man? They built a splendid New Order presided over by the United Nations. The noise was terrific in its New York glass temple but it did not bring peace. More than 200 wars have been fought since 1945. It did not bring freedom. Most countries in the U.N. are petty tyrannies of one sort or another.

United Nations - a Tower of Babel

It set out to lead the world by talk - a Tower of Babel handing down laws to all the earth - and if there was one thing worse than the U.N. ignoring a war it was the U.N. taking charge of one. In Bosnia the Serbs have been positively assisted by the clumsy hand of U.N. as much as our democratic politicians. Nothing can be done by the West until the Tower of Babel passes a resolution! And when any country's soldiers put on its pretty blue helmets they cease to be any good as a military force.

However it ends, the war in Bosnia teaches two lessons. First, Europe will never be built out of the squalor and weakness of its present leaders. Only Mosley idea and new men can unite Europe now.

And secondly, Europe should take itself right out of the United Nations and let the babblers talk themselves out of existence.

THE 'FREE TRADE' FALLACY AND ITS INEVITABLE CONSEQUENCE FOR THE WEST

MOSLEY: 1938

THE spread of modern science and technology has enabled our former customers to industrialize themselves... In remaining markets still open to us we are faced with a competition, unprecedented and irresistible, which has been created by the vile exploitation of modern science by finance power in the industrialisation of the Orient. Western finance has provided the loans which have equipped the East with equal machinery to the West, and has hired the Western technician to teach the oriental to perform the simplified tasks of mass production with modern mechanical technique at a third of the wages and for longer hours of monotonous toil than white labour can endure... How can we raise or even maintain British wages in face of competition from sweated labour supplied with the same machinery but paid a third of the wages and working for longer hours? ①

Tomorrow We Live

The apocalyptic tone of this undustrialists attack on GATT, finalised last December, is fully justified. Sir James advocates a regional free trade zone based on the European Community. The British Empire could have provided such an economic bloc - just as Mosley proposed 60 years ago, when the West's prospects were nowhere near as grim as today

GOLDSMITH: 1994

WHAT an outstanding thing it is to watch a civilisation destroy itself because it is unable to re-examine the validity, under totally new circumstances, of an economic ideology.... All of a sudden, nearly four billion people have entered the world economy including those from China, Indochina, India, Bangladesh and the nations which used to be part of the Soviet Union.... Overall, they offer a vast growing reservoir of underemployed, who, when they do find work, receive wages as much as 90 or 95 per cent less than those in Europe.... The whole balance between capital and labour will be shattered as the cost of labour drops to reflect the new supply provided by nearly four billion people willing to work for a pittance. ②

Sir James Goldsmith: The Times, 5 March 1994

● One ponders if the Canadian Government who have banned the book that printed the Mosley quote, reported on our front page, will keep a watchful eye on Sir James? (Ed)



Mosley 'a powerful mind'

SOME years ago while reading a book review in the *Times Literary Supplement*, a thought crossed the present writer's mind: this piece is far too good for publication. I was therefore pleased to find it reproduced in Lord Skidelsky's *Interests and Obsessions* - a collection of articles and reviews divided into 5 parts, and ranging from Victoria times to the present. (MacMillan £20).

This work has received generation attention from reviewers. In the *Sunday Telegraph* Niall Ferguson referred, with apparent approval, to the radical policies that would have arrested Britain's relentless and humiliating decline: "...imperial preference (in the slump); a deal with Germany in the 1930s to preserve the British Empire; a slimmed-down, whites only Commonwealth." Sounds familiar? Mr Ferguson might be unaware of it but all but the last of these were the policies of Mosley's BUF! (Far from 'slimming down' the Empire, the BUF's aim was to preserve and develop it). Ferguson thinks that Skidelsky now sympathises with Thatcherism. It is not so long since Skidelsky wrote in his Introduction to a book on that subject that Thatcherism's "analysis was oversimple, the means crude and mean" and argued that an "enterprise culture cannot harmonize society." We could hardly live in a more unharmonious society than 1990s Britain!

Whether or not Skidelsky is more sympathetic to Thatcherism, the fact is Mosley receives far more attention in *Interests and Obsessions* than Margaret

Book review

by PETER MARCY

Thatcher does. Mosley is mentioned throughout, and two chapters deal specifically with Mosley and British Fascism. "Why, after all," asks Skidelsky, "was the political system not prepared to adopt his unemployment policy in 1930-31? ...not just Mosley but anyone with ideas, courage and energy, was excluded from power or influence in the inter-war years." "...had Mosley been able to build up a stronger power base in the Labour Party, there might have been an attempt to apply a mixture of Hobsonian and Keynesian remedies for the slump of 1929-31."

Mosley's flaw says Skidelsky was hubris - the feeling that everything was possible. It was of course the optimistic feeling that science and technology had made everything possible that provided the whole dynamic of Fascist ideology.

"Certain personal qualities and one domestic circumstance carried Mosley to a leading position in English politics" he writes on page 181. "The qualities were a powerful mind, a gift of eloquence and an enormous energy. The decisive circumstance was the First World War."

"In the 1920s" - page 183, "Mosley sensed that the economic debate between laissez-faire capitalism and bureaucratic socialism was irrelevant...A visit to America convinced him that modern techniques of mass production had destroyed the basis of small-scale national economics. It followed that Britain had to enter into a larger economic system. In the 1930s that system was the Empire..."

"The movement towards Fascism" says Skidelsky on page 196, "arose essentially from Mosley's refusal to choose between left and right in a situation of mounting social crisis. Rather, it seemed to him that Fascism was the natural legatee of the centre party idea."

On page 216 he writes: "One of the disarming things about Oswald Mosley was the ability to laugh at himself as a great man. But it made me wonder what his act really was."

The answer to Skidelsky is that while Mosley was prepared to devote a tremendous amount of time and energy to



Churchill 'a disastrous executive'

"The very qualities which made Churchill such a memorable talker" says Skidelsky, "were apt to make him a disastrous executive. His enthusiasm for half-baked ideas were notorious. Antwerp, the Dardanelles, intervention in Russia, his budgets as Chancellor of the Exchequer, India, rearmament - his career was littered with audacious and imaginative schemes which were either flawed in conception, or, while soundly conceived, had not been fully thought through. He was a prophet for a cause - but the cause seemed to vary from moment to moment. As President of the Board of Trade he championed social reform: as Home Secretary he sternly suppressed sedition. As First Lord of the Admiralty he enthused over Naval expansion; As Chancellor of the Exchequer he cut down naval estimates. The Little Englander who broke with the Conservatives over Joseph Chamberlain's Imperial vision of 1903 becomes the undeviating upholder of Empire in the 1930s; the Air Minister of whom it was written 'he leaves the body of British flying well nigh at its last gasp' emerges as spokesman for air rearmament in 1934. The fanatical anti-Bolshevik embraces the alliance in 1938."

Of Churchill biographer Martin Gilbert's enormous

political activities, personal ambition was not his driving force. What he was saying to the British people in the 1930s was this:-

"Adopt MY policies and you will enjoy peace and prosperity. Reject them and the alternative is likely to be war and want. The choice is yours."

tones on his subject (Vol.5) Skidelsky writes: "It is significant that Mr. Gilbert can write over eleven hundred pages on Churchill between the wars without having put the word Unemployment into his index."

Lord Skidelsky thus takes his stand, and adds weight to the growing number of scholars revising the place of Churchill in the history of these islands.

For those of Mosley's British Union still alive to remember, the wheel has almost turned full-cycle for what the revisionists are now saying is what we knew of Churchill in those days leading up to the Second War tragedy. It is only a matter of time before the Churchill myth is shattered and his place in history defined, as probably more than any other, responsible for the loss of Britain's greatness, leading to the shambles that represents Great Britain today.

● Lord Skidelsky, biographer of John Maynard Keynes and Oswald Mosley, is professor of political economy at Warwick University.

A RIGHT LEFTY

IN reviewing Richard Pipes' book on Soviet Russia in the *SUNDAY TIMES*, Paul Johnson wrote:

"The ideological panorama which the Comintern created in the early 1930s, and which has been standard in all left-wing thinking to this day, that communism stood on the far left of the spectrum, representing the workers, and Nazi/Fascism on the far right, representing monopoly-capitalism, imperialism and militarism, is a complete fantasy."

The Editor comments: No group of Leftwingers did more to propagate the myth that Fascism represented extreme Right Reaction than the contributors to "The New Statesman". And who formerly edited "The New Statesman"?

Why, Paul Johnson! LW

SOME READERS we hear have had difficulties in obtaining *Intellectuals & British Fascism: A Study of Henry Williamson* by Melvyn Higginbottom, (Janus Publishing £9.99)

The other tells us that it can be obtained from Bailey Distributors Ltd., Learoyd Road, Mountfield Road Industrial Estate, New Romney, TN28 8XU: Tel: 0679 66905 Fax: 0679 66638

Politics of the Madhouse

writes
FRED BAILEY

MY INTEREST in political matters began as a schoolboy in East London. I suppose I inherited this from my father who was an early member of the Labour Party and the Unemployed movement. The year was 1937 and only 12 years old but one matured quickly in the grim conditions of life in East London in those days. I was soon to understand that he had become totally disillusioned and betrayed as promise after promise which was never kept. He had realised that the party which once had given hope to the working man was just as much tied to the apron strings of international finance as were the other parties, a situation which still applies today. "He who pays the piper calls the tune" I recall he told me.

Politics of the Madhouse

With hope almost gone my father searched for an alternative. He found it with Mosley and his new inspiring movement, British Union and he was one of the first to join in East London, to be followed as the 1930s developed by many others.

The main plank of what Mosley stood for was quite simple to understand, even for a schoolboy. To solve Britain's problems of poverty in the midst of plenty he advocated that Britain should develop the Empire and insulate itself against the slave-wage competition from abroad which could have brought to the British people the highest standard of life the world had seen. To maintain this system it was vital that we should keep out of foreign quarrels that did not concern us. Our only interest the well-being and survival of Britain and her Empire and nothing should detract British policies from that purpose.

In recent years I read from time to time, an increasing number of commentators analysing the grim 1930s agreeing that this policy would have worked. But the old gang parties, fighting their sham battles at the Westminster talking shop muddled on with their

out-of-date system of which the only beneficiary was International Finance. In kept coming the cheap sweated goods from abroad at the expense of British labour, creating abysmal living conditions, ruining traditional industries and creating some 3 million unemployed.

And as if there were not enough problems at home to solve they insisted at every opportunity of look-around the world for a foreign quarrel into which they could poke Britain's nose. They had at least some success in this direction, dragging us into that disastrous Second World War which cost us the Empire, made us near bankrupt, and ultimately, the anarchy which stalks Britain today.

Politics of the Madhouse

After the war, with millions dead, Europe in ruins and one half of it under a tyrannical communist yoke which our party politicians embraced, or looked the other way, it was back to the old system which fooled the people into believing that those they voted into power were masters of Britain's destiny whereas in fact it was again International Finance that rules.

Tory and Labour alike, and the Liberals given the chance are bound to the holy cow of 'free trade' which in practice means running around the world investing where labour is cheap, and profits thus the highest, to the detriment of our own standard of life. In addition they have brought their old ideas on 'Free Trade' up to date by creating a pool of cheap labour in every country in the world through their acception of mass immigration.

Politics of the Madhouse

With Britain's empire gone and her power vastly reduced by the unnecessary war and under the thumb of the American dollar, where stood Mosley and his grand design?

A realist, he realised immediately that this was no longer attainable and with the added impetus of the Soviet hordes poised on the frontiers of a near prostrate Western Europe,

held back only be the threat of the atom bomb which the Americans had been first to secure, Mosley, always ahead of his time, threw out the half-appeal, half-challenge to the peoples of Europe, already bound by 3,000 years of European culture, to reach fulfillment in a political Union of Europe.

Economically Europe would trade within its own borders, a market of 300 million insulated from cheap sweated competition.

The Politics of Sanity

After a lifetime of support of Oswald Mosley I pose the questions:

Was Mosley responsible for the chaos of the 1930s? Was he responsible for the last war? Or responsible for what followed leading to the state of Britain today?

The answer to the first is that he expended his enormous energy in showing the way out of the mess with his grand vision of Britain and her self-contained Empire and thus sacrificed, so the commentators now admit, his political career. As for the second, he was thrown into prison without charge or trial for fighting tooth and nail to prevent it. As for the chaos of today, he has left a legacy of ideas to show the way ahead.

His concept of "the division of the world" into separate continental blocks, each big enough to contain its own market and economic system making high living standards possible. His fully-united Europe is quite different from Mr. Major's half-baked idea or today's bureaucratic federalist Europe.

So for the British people what is it to be - the politics of the madhouse, or the politics of sanity?

If we continue to permit ourselves to be governed by the politics of the madhouse the future of our country is grim indeed.

The way ahead is hard but if it is to be the politics of sanity then all things are possible.

For the future generations the British people must make their choice.

LETTERS

THE FILM "Remains of the Day" has received several "Oscar Nominations" from the Hollywood Academy of motion pictures... Sir Oswald Mosley plays a tiny role as a "Sir Jeffrey" in this film.

After viewing it, I was heavily impressed with the performance of its main actors, Anthony Hopkins and Emma Thompson as well as Edward Fox (the latter playing the role of the Duke of Hamilton). It confirmed once more to me, that standards of the most reputable actors is definitely unsurpassed today and can easily be called as the best in the world.

However, I am puzzled and baffled with "the historic" background. It is an adaption of a novel which won the Booker prize two years ago and written by a Mr. Ishiguro. I am not impressed with the quality of the winner's work because I have the impression that (like for the Noble prizes of literature - since WW2) a quota system is in use in order to reflect the "multicultural society". It seems that the background of this novel is "the Twenties". American film Director James Ivory however used the "Thirties".

Of Sir Oswald Mosley, he makes an absolute caricature. For example, during dinner, "Sir Jeffrey" is using crass and crude language about "crushing the unions", "throwing out the Jews", enquiring "if labour people are sitting on this table" (suggesting he otherwise might leave). The only genuine similarity with Sir Oswald are his good looks.

Having read Lord Sidelisky's and Nicholas Mosley's biographies of Sir Oswald, those by Lady Mosley and his faithful followers and the praise by several of his opponents when "My Life" was published, I am convinced that he never used this particular kind of language. People like Sir Oswald, who were very knowledgeable on culture, the arts, philosophy, history, domestic and international politics and capable of writing essays are by no means capable of this kind of thing. So it all sounded absurd.

Novelists are of course free to use fiction as they prefer and I do not wish to put this in doubt but Mr. Ivory, in this instance, pretended to use "faction" (which is the fashionable so-called "New Journalism").

In the "Remains of the Day" this pretentious historical background is a tasteless joke and an absolute absurdity. W.M. Belgium

● We have not seen this film which I am told has been released on video. Our contributor is very correct about O.M.s use of language, and I am unaware of any visit to a dinner party at the Duke of Hamilton's estate in the 1930s.

(Ed)

LAST POST

George Townsend Wiltshire

Foundation Member British Union

BY GORDON BECKWELL

In our October issue we recorded the passing of Dorset Blackshirt Leader Robert Saunders, OBE. It is with great sadness we report the death on 12 January, one day before his 84th birthday, of GEORGE WILTSHIRE, the man who signed up farmer Bob in British Union in 1933, and who, though in failing health, presented himself to pay his last respects at his old friends funeral last September.

His last weeks was spent in hospital but he had been arranged for him to come home for Christmas and he was looking forward with great enthusiasm to completing a questionnaire on British Union for an academic researcher but it was not to be. He died one of Mosley's dedicated Blackshirts. From his recorded memoirs and other sources here is his story.

In 1912, when just two, he emigrated to Canada with his family and only narrowly missed sailing aboard the ill-fated *Titanic* that sank with the loss of 1500 lives when it hit an iceberg. After his father was killed on the Western Front in the First War, the family returned to Weymouth where eventually George became closely associated with the Independent Labour Party.

It was not until 1932, however, that he discovered the political creed that met his strong personal conviction that the Empire should be properly developed for the benefit of all its people rather than neglected or exploited for private gain.

Converted by 'The Greater Britain'

After reading *The Greater Britain* George declared: "This is it! Mosley has the complete answer!" and he joined British Union in the very month of its foundation: October 1932. Encouraged by his mother and other members of his family, who also became members, he established a formation of BU in Weymouth and worked hard to advance the Cause by selling the Movement's papers in the streets 3 nights every week and stewarding local and national meetings including the first Albert Hall meeting, where he first heard Mosley, Belle Vue, Manchester, and Earls Court in 1939. He was also present at 'Cable Street'.

Once he had firmly established the branch, George handed over the leadership to District Officer E.C. Peake and together they opened a District HQ and

Blackshirt Bookshop in St. Albans Street. Later he worked closely with C.H. Sureties the District Leader for Weymouth and Dorset South and held positions of Action Team Leader and later Polling District Leader for Broadway.

One exciting episode he often recalled towards the end of his life was the day a party of Red trippers turned up at Weymouth on the day that the weekly meeting was to be held on Weymouth Sands opposite Alexandra Gardens where large crowds gathered to hear such local speakers as Bob Saunders, Flo Hayes, Rafe Temple Cotton from Devon and Tommy Moran and Wilf Risdon (himself an ex-ILPer who started life in Weymouth) from National Headquarters. On this day of August 1938, 800 had collected to hear the speakers when the Red interrupters attacked the loudspeaker trailer and pelted it with paper bags filled with sand and George played a major part in fending off the attackers and saving the trailer from serious damage.

Fingered by M.I.5:

George worked at the Whitehead Torpedo works, known locally as the Tin Fish Factory. He organised a branch of the National Union of Clerks with two clandestine BU members to improve the conditions of the workforce. This development was reported to NHQ where the information was noted by British Union's Industrial Organiser P.G. Taylor who it was later known was James McGurk Hughes, an M15 'mole'. The possibility of a Blackshirt cell in an armaments

A Blackshirt and his memories



1933

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EARLS COURT

EXHIBITION HALL

(The Largest Hall in the World)

"BRITAIN FIRST" RALLY.

SUNDAY, 16th. JULY, 1939

at 7.30 p.m.

MOSLEY SPEAKS

This STEWARD'S PASS is to be signed in the space provided before presentation. It is to be shown, with a current membership card, at the Warwick Road entrance (opposite Earls Court Sta.). No member wearing uniform or address Blackshirt will be admitted. On entering the hall, follow the guide signs to the assembly place and join your detachment AT ONCE.

YOUR DETACHMENT IS NO. 2

Signature of Steward G. T. Wiltshire



27 year old GEORGE WILTSHIRE at Selsey Blackshirt Camp in 1937: his membership issued two weeks after the BUF was born: his Steward's Pass and Badge for the July 1939 Earls Court Peace Rally, and in the last months of British Union, the entry in his diary for OM's meeting at Poole Centenary Hall, autographed by The Leader in March 1940

MARCH 1940

Poole

10 Sun - Passion S...

Bantony

Hall

3-1/2

5.30pm

factory interested Taylor who wrote to the District Leader asking for more information on George's activities. He then monitored the situation by the clever device of appointing George local Industrial Correspondent for Action - so George was effectively reporting on himself to M15 without knowing it.

As a loyal Briton George's activities for BU at Whiteheads were entirely patriotic but this did not stop M15 'pulling the plug' on him once war was declared and he was dismissed because of his political beliefs. But not before he had drawn attention to the fact that torpedoes that were in desper-

ate short supply in the Royal Navy for the defence of Britain were being sold to Holland.

The true background to these events have only recently come to light through our research and even George never knew the full story.

Loyal from First to Last

In August 1939 he spent a two-week holiday in Germany but even there his 'BU salesmanship' did not desert him, selling six copies of Mosley's *Tomorrow We Live*.

Within days of his return Britain declared war on Germany and he applied himself to the Peace Campaign with renewed energy. On March 10

Turn to page 6

5 LAST POST

1940 he stewarded Mosley's meeting at Poole Centenary Hall and shortly after attended the meeting held by Regional Inspector Temple Cotton at Malmsbury Rings, Dorchester. He was due to steward Mosley's meeting on Bournemouth Rollerdrone on May 26 but two days earlier The Leader had been detained under Regulation 18B. George never understood why he also was not detained and he promptly enlisted in the RAF in which he served for the duration.

After the war he lost no time in joining the Mosleyite Wessex Book Club and later a active supporter of Union Movement, fully subscribing to Mosley's idea of a United Europe.

Incapacity in later years prevented George from attending Friends of O.M.'s London functions but he was a keen reader of Comrade.

Shortly before his death FOM was able to supply at his request a Circle and Flash Badge. He had confided to an FOM representative at the funeral of Bob Saunders that he had mislaid his badge some years before and the possession of the symbol of the Movement he had

Another look at 'Hate Propaganda'!

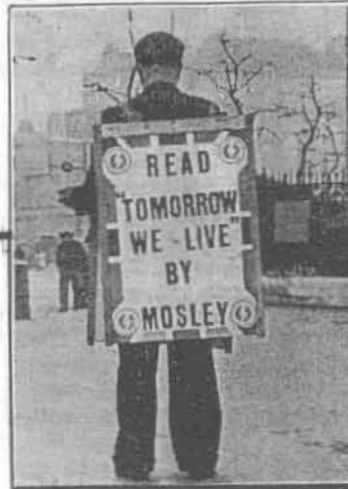


In city and countryside throughout Britain British Union members publicised Mosley's new book leading to the sale of thousands of copies and six printings. The year 1938. Not 'hate propaganda' then. It was not hate, but hope that it brought to thousands of British people

served for so long would mean much to him in his last days.

Friends of Oswald Mosley salute the passing of a fine Englishman and loyal comrade and offer deepest sympathy to his widow Eve and all his family.

● Dorset British Union's loud-speaker trailer which George Wiltshire threw in his weight to defend in 1938 was discovered, still adorned with posters, by our researchers shortly before his death. It is now being faithfully restored for F.O.M. archives (Ed)



F.O.M.
* May Day Buffet *
SATURDAY, MAY 7th.

Old Comrades



From Daily Mail 13th April

Fencing clever

SIR Oswald Mosley was picked to represent Great Britain at fencing in the 1936 Berlin Olympics, but withdrew from the team at the last moment because this country's Olympic committee decided not to give the Nazi salute at the Games.

Sir Oswald said, in a letter he wrote me from Paris some years ago, that it was quite wrong of us to call it 'the Nazi salute', because it was the ancient Greek Olympic sign of greeting and we should treat it as such. The world now knows this gentleman's place in British history. JACK MOORE

Whatever the world thinks, we certainly know what Mr. Moore, one-time manager of the Lawn Tennis Foundation, thinks of Mosley.

Inviting him to appear in a book on famous Sportsmen and Women born in Staffordshire in a letter May 24 1969 he said:

"It would be a great honour and privilege to include your name in such a book, and give some details of your sporting career, and your services to this country".

Touché!

1944—IN MEMORIAM—1994

ANDERS, E.J.D. Canterbury Branch British Union
AVERY, Capt. E.F. Southampton British Union: 188 Political Prisoner: London
Union Movement: at 93 oldest Chelsea Pensioner
February 1976
BAKER, Bill Howard early UM writer/journalist, author, publisher 13 February 1991
DONOVAN, J.E. Limehouse British Union: seaman "Action" writer Don Beresford:
February 1938
EATON, W.G. 'Bill' British Union D/L Lancaster, D/Insp N/Lancs and Westmorland,
BU Parl Candidate Burnley: hold British Union Gold Award 5 February 1989
EATON, Barry East London British Union and Union Movement February 1976
FULLER, Maj Gen J.F.C. CH OBE DSO original tank expert, thinker, writer: organ-
ised British tanks 1914-18 War: British Union Parl Candidate Westminster St.
George's 10 February 1966
GOOD, Ann British Union & Union Movement: O.M.'s UM secretary Early 1979
HUTTON, William former D/T Highgate, Birmingham British Union February 1937
JONES, Barry Shoreditch Br Union: E/Yorks Regt: E/London UM Candidate 1949
February 1990
LUBITER, Mrs Limehouse Br Union: 101 yr old mother of Glad Walsh, Clacton who
passed away December 1990 3 February 1973
RATCLIFFE, Ralph former BU D/L of Bures, Suffolk: UM: at 85 22 February 1989
STEELE, Capt. C.H. BU Parl Cand, Guildford: after brick injury on Blackshirt
march February 1939
SUMER, H.A. Broadstairs British Union & Union Movement February 1973
VALERIAN, Eusebius 'Pete' well-known London BU member & proprietor Holborn
Distributing Co. Organised sales of Action by newspapers & street sellers:
During war, at risk of arrest provided office accommodation for 188 Detainees
Aid Fund at 81 February 1959
WITNEY, Mrs F Brixton Union Movement February 1950
BEAVAN, Arthur Brit. Union "T" Squad: D/L West Ham: Upton Parl Candidate: 188 Pol-
itical Prisoner: Union Movement 23 March 1988
BECKETT, Joe British & Empire H/Wt Champ 1919-23: British Union & Union Move-
ment: at 87 March 1965
BROOK-GROVES, Tom Brit. Union & RAP: 188 Political Prisoner arrested on active
service Far East: husband of BU Chief Woman's Organizer March 1982
CAPETON, L. 'Cape' BU D/L Croydon winner Action Sales Cup: later D/Insp: 188
Political Prisoner: Bristol Union Movement March 1961
CLAYTON, Charlie East London BU and UM Drums Corps base drummer 17 March 1978
DOWSE, Dorothy Viscountess Br Union Parl Cand N/Worfolk: UM 26 March 1957
FERGUS, Don Nottingham British Union: 188 Political Prisoner March 1952
GREEN, John Hackney British Union & Essex Union Movement March 1959
GRINDY, Sid London BU and UM: father of UM's 1950s speaker, Trevor 25 March 1991
HAMILTON, Sir Archibald popular member at Selsey Blackshirt Camp March 1939
HAWLEY, Frank Sheffield BU teacher: 188 Political Prisoner: Union Movement Org-
aniser and election candidate 26 March 1985
HAYES, Florence Br Union D/L Bournemouth: Womersley County Off Bants: 188 Politi-
cal Prisoner: Union Movement March 1982
HAPGOOD, Johnny Hackney (U) Candidate 1950 Borough Election: First UM Drum
Corps: One of large Hackney family of Mosley's BU & UM supporters, April 1993

HARDING, Alf: Hackney Branch British Union, Union M. In Herts. 4 March 1993
HOOKER, Bill Shoreditch Union Movement March 1949
HUNT, A.E. 'Alf' BU Parl Cand Kings Lynn: 188 Political Prisoner: UM: March 1974
LIVINGS, Leslie Leytonstone British Union March 1935
SILLEY, Charles P St Albans BU: Prop. & BI St Albans Free Press 4 March 1934
WISDMAN, Frank C D/Tr Worcester BU: music & singing tutor Worcester Cathedral
School: composer BU's Battle Song and author of lost unpublished Delayed
Harvest written when 188 Political Prisoner 17 March 1983
WINTER, James H: 78 Canadian Bn 1914-18: Br Union D/L Dorset N: 188 Political
Prisoner: Wessex Branch Union Movement March 1953
BEST, James Clifford Prop Off N/E Leeds British Union: NEQ Staff speaker: 188
Political Prisoner April 1987
BENNETT, Peter Lewis One of 5 Baling Blackshirt brothers now deceased, Clonmel
In German Concentration Camp 20 April 1985
CAMERON, Roy author, poet, soldier, patriot: good friend of Franco Spain and
British Union April 1957
CHITTEL, E.B. Morden British Union bus driver April 1939
FERGUSON, Walter British Union D/L Doncaster: 188 Political Prisoner: Union Move-
ment April 1962
DICKINSON, H. 'Pop' Manchester BU: father of Reg. Insp Charlie Dickenson
April 1940
DIXON, Mrs Lilian wife of British Union D/L Jameson Dixon April 1966
DOBBY, Albert D/T British Union, Hulse, Manchester April 1937
DOUG, 'Paddy' Union Movement: London Drums Corps 12 April 1986
EDWARDS, Henry British Union: Stk London Union Movement April 1976
EDWARDS, Bywel Birmingham Union Movement April 1991
EASTWELL, Jack Bethnal Green British Union & Union Movement April 1975
ENGLISH, Mrs Marjorie Angela mtr of Kensington UM org Michael April 1952
ENSH, Bernard Union Movement: at Hazardsworth, Middlesex April 1980
HODGARTH, George D/T Eye, Suffolk BU: 188 Political Prisoner: UM 9 April 1985
HOSKINS, Miss Edith Union Movement: aunt of UM's Bill Barris April 1980
JAMESON, George Shoreditch BU & UM: father of BU & UM's George, HM 19 April 1952
MERRITT, William crippled ex-soldier Tottenham BU: In Australia April 1980
NIGHTINGALE, A BU D/L Horsham: 188 Political Prisoner: UM April 1948
PARKSON, Lady British Union Parl Candidate, Canterbury: UM 10 April 1959
PHILLIPS, Joe Limehouse British Union: Union Movement April 1951
PUTTENDEN, David Br Union NEQ Staff: in motor cycle accident April 1935
SHEPHERD, Fred E/London Blackshirt Cadet: UM N/London organiser 30 April 1988
SILLEY, Alf E/London BU: husband & father of UM's Ann & Jenny April 1976
SIMPSON, Eric Woodford: BU & UM Drums Corps: husband of Pam 4 April 1988
SMITH, 'Tubby' Limehouse British Union: husband of Ann April 1984
SOUTHERN, C.E.R. Dorset W British Union: Union Movement April 1982
TOMPKINS, Bruce Kingston British Union speaker: Union Movement 25 April 1990
WILTS, Albert Early UM member: N/W London local election candidate. In Lan-
cashire in his 80s April 1991

COMRADE

Incorporating ACTION and UNION

Newsletter of Friends of OM



No. 43

'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'

May/July 1994

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

AITKEN, Sgt Lionel: RAF 59 Sq: shot down bombing German convoy off Dunkirk: BUF "1" Squad & O/I/C



Black House NID 1935: brother of Andrew BUF & RAF killed flying accident 1937, Marjorie, Womens D/O BUF & son of Commander L.G. Aitken, RN & BUF: lies in Dunkirk Town Cemetery.

7 July 1941

AUSTIN, Sgt W.C. 'Bill': 1 Bn KRRC: killed in action Tunis: 26: Liverpool British Union: lies Madjaze-el-Bab War Cemetery, Tunis.

10 May 1943

AYRES, Pte Francis 'Nipper': 6 Bn Green Howards: 20: killed in action Dunkirk: Limehouse British Union: lies Oye-Plage Communal Cemetery, France.

25 May 1940

CHAMBERS, Donald: joined RAF first day of WW2; then British Political Prisoner joining Army on release, from which released to die: Epping British Union and BU Drum Corps: Our back page bugler.

18 June 1943

FAIRY, W/O David George: RAF 212 Sqdn: killed on ops Cochín, India: 23: Leytonstone British Union: lies Madras War Cemetery.

27 June 1944

FEITCH, W/Comm R.L.I.: 212 Sqdn: killed in Mosquito landing accident, Norfolk: 26: lies in Kelvedon Hatch Churchyard, Essex

21 May 1945

GILL, Sgt Pil Basil W: RAF VR: flying accident when instructing at No.3 Glider Training School after release from British political imprisonment: 22: Leeds British Union: lies in Harehills Cemetery, Leeds.

28 May 1943

GREENWOOD, Capt. Charles: 8th Bn Parachute Regt, Army Air Corps: killed in action D Day + 1, Normandy: 29: Prop. Off and Acting D/L Enfield British Union 1939/40: lies in Ranville War Cemetery, France.

7 June 1944

IRVINE, Pte R: 1/5th Bn Queens R. Regt: In first 'Militia' draft July 1939: killed in action Dunkirk: 21: Shoreditch British Union: lies Strazeele Communal Cemetery.

28 May 1940

MAYS, Sapper John Basil: R/Eng: despatch rider killed accident Hemswell RAF Station, Lincs: 25: West Leeds British Union: lies St. Chad Churchyard, Harpswell, Lincs.

28 July 1940

MILLAN, L/Cpl 'Paddy': Corps Military Police formerly Palestine Police: killed in action in Battle of Knightsbridge Box: BUF "1" Squad

27 July 1942

'Only within a properly organised Europe can we advance our own British culture'

Keep Britain British — through EUROPE A NATION

By MICHAEL QUILL

THE CHALLENGES that face the world today call for a strong Europe. This is no less vital for Britain, shorn of her strength and historical role by the disastrous policies of our 1930s politicians who muddled us into a war that, win or lose, was bound to bring about Britain's decline, and who cannot now, economically or in matters of defence, go it alone.

Instead we are between a discredited Common Market and a Maastricht Treaty which is interpreted in different ways, adjoined by a fragmented Eastern Bloc with all the new nations pressing to join the Community.

With tiny Luxembourg having one vote, just as the larger states, and the politicians trying to gain advantage over each other, there is no-one to take the essential broad European view.

Indeed the Europea Ideal is in danger of being

strangled in the confusion and muddle the politicians have created.

In 1965, OSWALD MOSLEY wrote in the National European of the choice that would have to be made in building a future for the European People.

- 1: 'Europe des Parties: a league of states that would discuss common problems.
- 2: The Common Market: a bureaucracy run by cast-off politicians.
- 3: A Federal Europe (that the Maastricht Treaty is edging towards)
- 4: "Europe a Nation".

Mosley argues the case for Europe a Nation, a view accepted by all those with brains who regard themselves as 'Nationalist'. For it is only within a properly organised Europe that we can advance our own British culture, as other European states could advance their own way of life, protected from the invading 'cultures' of the rest of the world, and control by the money power of international finance.

We must again proclaim our faith in "EUROPE A NATION" and set out how it would work and bring to the Peoples of Europe the challenge to strive for ever higher forms in a new and

MOSLEY'S EUROPE

A new dynamism in the will to high-forms is the hard and practical requirement of an age which commands him to rise higher or sink forever. He can no longer stand still: he must transcend himself; this deed will contain both the glory of sacrifice and the triumph of fulfilment. It is the age of decision in which the long striving of the European soul will reach to fulfilment or plunge to final death. Great it is to live in the moment of Fate, because it means this generation is summoned to greatness in the service of high purpose. From the dust we rise to see a vision that came not before. All things are now possible; and all will be achieved by the final order of the European.

The Alternative, 1947

nobler civilisation.

A three tier system of Government would be a European Government chosen by the European Parliament, elected from the ablest available; the Nation-State governments that we know today, and the Governments of the Provinces, the historical Peoples that make up Europe.

● Three Tier Europe ● 2

'OLD PARTY governments have in fact, in real terms, stopped governing Britain.... British prime ministers now appear to have only one function worth mentioning. To stay wired-up and plugged-in to these power centres abroad and confirm to their decisions'

Myth of British Sovereignty

By
ROBERT
ROW

THE Euro-elections are over. Some new EMP's were elected. Some new parties got good votes. Some old parties, such as the British Labour Party and the German Social Democrats, gained more seats. The end result is of two big groups of left-of-centre and right-of-centre parties about evenly matched.

But the European Parliament is little better than a debating society with little power.

Europe now has a deadlocked talking shop to speak for it.

Something however, was very clear. In Britain only about a third of the electorate voted. In Europe generally just under half. Parliamentary democracy is withering away when a majority of voters do not vote. Some pundits are getting anxious and stories are appearing in the media on the contempt felt for politicians, and the EBC has held a inquiry into the growing lack of enthusiasm for democracy.

But this does not disturb the politicians, cocooned in their talking shops, insulated from the real world. 'None are so blind as those who will not see'. So they ignore the silent majority who will not vote for them, and with more of the same old tricks play up to those who do.

Take John Major, a classic case of resignation postponed too long. Major is one of those weak obstinate men who cling to the job like limpets. His answer to his resounding defeat in the European elections is to hang on tighter and will no doubt relieve the pressure and shuffle his useless government around. A fat lot of good this will do. One bunch of incompetents replaced by another similar bunch.

What good would it do if instead we had a Labour government? Very little, when Labour has become a carbon copy of the Tories. But their is a difference. Mr Blair is glamorous, they say, but Mr Major is not, and Labour is all set to use their charmer to get the Tories out, just as the Tories used Mrs Thatcher to

sink Labour in 1979.

This is what the political party game is all about in this day and age!

Old party governments have in fact, in real terms, stopped governing Britain. The plain truth is that Britain is now ruled by power groups outside our country. International finance can make or break the British economy. GATT, or the World Trade Organisation, dictates our trade policy. The United Nations dictates our foreign policy. Washington dictates our defence. Not one of these global power groups has been elected by a single British voter.

British prime ministers now appear to have only one function worth mentioning. To stay wired-up and plugged-in to these power centres abroad and confirm to their decisions.

Being the poodle of power groups abroad instead of exercising it at home is the drug which keeps Major going. With the great of the earth behind him he can ignore the millions who won't vote. Nor does he bother about democracy's largest problem, mass unemployment. In fact unemployment is built in, part of the 'structure' of the democratic system. It cannot be solved by Major's methods. As soon as his 'recovery' builds up, inflation takes over, interest rates rise, firms go bust, and its back again to mass unemployment. And nothing undermines democracy more than millions condemned to worklessness while politicians stand helpless - as they 1930s showed.

MOSLEY'S EUROPE

Diversity bound by Unity Three-Tier Government

by MICHAEL QUILL

The First Tier of Government: EUROPE A NATION means Europe must have a Government. A government with a limited but exclusive range of duties. A Government that must be responsible to the people through the European Parliament. This would be elected on a PR system, on a national list for smaller states and on provincial lists for the larger states. This would enable all the historic peoples of Europe to have representation in the governing of Europe according to their numbers. Members would go to Parliament as Scots, Welshmen, Bavarians, Flemings, Bretons, Basques etc thus the fear that any one nation could dominate should be reduced.

The European Parliament would select a European Government from the most able people available to it, irrespective of nationality.

The power of such Government would be limited to such matters as Defence and Foreign Affairs - matters that to be effective must be on a European scale. Although the Soviet threat to Europe is no more, it should not be forgotten that Europe is only about 7% of the world's land surface and new threats could arise. The strength of EUROPE A NATION should ensure that no one would attack one part of Europe believing such a country stood alone.

A European Government would have the duty of controlling the major facets of the economy. Europe needs a stable currency independent of the world money market with its speculators, financiers and gamblers. A European currency would service the vast bulk of Europe's trade, insulated from the slumps and depression we suffer today. Any trade outside Europe would be on a bilateral arrangement cutting out financiers and speculators. Through a wage-price mechanism the Government would ensure that income rose to absorb all European production whilst having the power to interfere to prevent profiteering. Then, in that secure system, use increased productivity to enable more leisure time to be enjoyed.

The Second Tier of Government: This would be the present Nation State. They would be responsible for all other matters just as they are now. No dictates from Brussels on how they should manage their affairs. Each Nation would keep its own way of life. Trade Unions would be essential to ensure that social conditions were broadly similar throughout Europe.

The Third Tier of Government: This would be provincial government under which the differing aspirations of the historic peoples that make up Europe could be achieved. Developing their own way of life sure in the knowledge that diversity could flourish with the strength of EUROPE A NATION.

The 1930s are gathering again. Mr Major, and indeed the entire political party establishment, should re-

member what happened the last time democracy committed suicide.

EUROPE — UNITE OR PERISH

by PETER MARCY

IN a "Sunday Express" article "Chinese Power Play" early this year, Michael Robinson says "One of President Clinton's clearest messages is that future U.S. prosperity relies on increased world trade."

The international industrialist and recently elected Euro PM Sir James Goldsmith, predicts that this laissez-faire delusion (shared by John Major) will destroy Western civilisation by wiping out its industries.

Millions of Britons have recently seen on television how a Chinese shoe factory run with military precision by the Chinese Army and employing 7,000 girls at a wage of £7 a week produces quality ladies shoes exclusively for the American market at \$10 a pair. A pair of \$10 shoes might seem a bargain but a vicious circle has been set up: the American shoe factory worker who has lost his job cannot now buy the product offered.

In an article written more than 60 years ago, Maynard Keynes - himself a Liberal Free Trader - claimed that: "every reasonably-sized country could produce for itself most of the things it needed."

And as early as the 1920s Mosley was warning that "The sweated labour of the East is being more than ever exploited by Western Capitalism. Modern, simplified, rationalized machines can be worked by the illiterate, backward labour which has no trade unions nor any possible means of self-defence. The mass of labour, sweated for a fraction of our wages, needs only a few highly paid supervisors and technicians. How can we compete against them when this method gets going on a great scale?"

This "great scale" is now operating at a level almost beyond belief. In China alone 90 million peasants have moved into factories in the past 10 years. In Latin America and the Far East 4 billion people have suddenly entered the world

The Open Eye... of Paul Collins

IS the Russian nationalist wildman, Zhirinovskiy a fascist? Lady Mosley was asked in a recent magazine interview.

"They call football hooligans fascist, so perhaps they think he's a football hooligan," she replied. "Words are meaningless now, ever since the communists called themselves democrats. In politics, everyone you hate is a fascist."

For the past half century, fascism has been little more than a term of abuse, the loss of truth and linguistic precision accelerating under the influence of the post-sixties campus class.

Old fogies are not immune. The right journalist and former leftist, Paul Johnson (now calling for a new "national" party to save Britain from the policies of the two parties he formerly championed) is given to such terms as "left fascist", "red fascists" and "liberal fascists." And Mr Johnson is greatly grieved by the decline in literacy! Ms Anna Ford, the TV person, once complained that ogling males were guilty of "body fascism". Militant vegetarians sometimes denounce meat eaters as "fascists", unconcerned that one of history's better known vegies was A.Hitler.

The arrival in power of the Italian "neo-fascists" has forced some rethinking however. After all these people are not hate-crazed psychopaths and morans, delighting in the parodying of the worst in Nazism. They have been seen on television, hornless and passably human. They don't attack innocent Black or Asian passers by, or desecrate Jewish cemeteries and places of worship. Moreover, they are supported by rather large numbers of Italian voters, and far from disowning their past, acknowledge a lineal fidelity to Mussolini. They even managed to find a fetching looking woman who turned out to be the Duce's granddaughter. More "amazingly", they voted her into office.

Now this spectacle sends

economy - providing an inexhaustible supply of dirt-cheap labour. It is impossible for Europeans to compete.

Our only hope is to create a self-sufficient economic bloc in Europe.

shivers down many a spine. Where might it all end? The Economist has been trying to make sense of it all. "Because Mussolini sided with Hitler in the 1930s, and Franco's rebellion in Spain was backed by both, 'fascism' has become synonymous with Nazism, and so with racism, and so, by now, almost any 'ism' the speaker disapproves of" noted the magazine.

"Some critics applied the term to Margaret Thatcher, an authoritarian, but one who no more believed in society-as-a-whole - as real fascists did and do - than in socialism (or National Socialism for that matter)."

Anti-semitism, noted The Economist, was no natural part of Fascism. It was pressure from Hitler - at a time when Eden-led antagonisms had driven Italy into Berlin's arms - that persuaded Mussolini to bring in anti-Jewish laws in late 1938. Franco - an autocrat rather than a Fascist - allowed thousands of Jews to escape into Spain from France, intervening as far afield as Greece to save Jews, saying they were Spanish.

"The true mark of fascism," concluded The Economist, "belief in the one party corporate state....is not Nazism or racism. The word 'fascist' should be reserved for those who profess that belief, and today's 'neo fascists' should be judged for their own ideas, not Hitler's."

Truth and reality have taken a long time to catch up, but The Economist's is still a small voice sounding through the calculated deception.

Fascism was a pre-war philosophy, almost as obsolete in contemporary conditions, as Manchester School Liberalism, or Thatcherism.

Yet certain assumptions ARE relevant to the modern age, when isolated from historical fascism's errors, simplicities and gross excesses.

Fascism appealed to men and women who wanted to build a nation in which class was transcended by fellow-feeling, to create a Britain, in Mosley's words, worthy of that kind of love. Fascism combined love of country - purged of the reactionary right - and love of the people - freed from socialism's class antagonism and hatred of patriotism. It is one of the paradoxes of history that

the only time this ideal approached fruition was during the Second World War, a case of fascism being employed to defeat fascism.

In the Objects of British Union - a declaration no doubt regarded by the Canadian government as an incitement to hatred, in view of its recent banning of a reprinted pre-war Mosley book - we read the following principles and aims.

- All shall serve the state and not the faction.
- All shall work to enrich their country and themselves.
- Opportunity shall be open to all, but privilege to none.
- Great position shall be accorded only to great talent.
- Reward shall be accorded only to service.
- Poverty shall be abolished by the power of modern science released within the organised state.
- The barriers of class shall be destroyed, and the energies of every citizen devoted to the service of the British nation.

Read half a century later, there is no doubt a certain naivete, an exaggerated faith in the beneficent power of science, too little recognition of the complexity and fallability of human nature.

But these were and remain essentially noble and uplifting principles, more civilised and inspiring than the market-driven, me-first assertiveness of Thatcherism, nobler than non-interventionist Majorism, more than permissive, Libertarian "progressive" values as espoused by The Guardian. They offer, in their fundamentals, a vision of a Britain happier, more fulfilled, and nobler than the one we live in.

When Tony Blair speaks of a new economic policy built on a social partnership between employers and employees, national solidarity, and so on, he is mocked by a free-trading, non-interventionist, Euro-sceptic of the Conservative right, such as the journalist Noel Malcolm.

Mr Malcolm derides such values as "Christian socialist" or worse - given the Frog/Hun connotations, Christian Democrat.

Mr Blair should be careful. Should he begin putting some edge to these views, and proceed to set about the issues of unemployment, housing, crime, and national demoralization, he might yet be denounced as a "fascist."

THE COMMEMORATION DINNER

Saturday, 19th November 1994

Reservations, £14.00 now being accepted

How the B.U.F. came to Geordieland:

AS IT WAS IN THE BEGINNING

1926

April 1st: The coalminers throughout Britain began uniting in what was to become a long and bitter dispute. Within 33 days the situation developed into the infamous General Strike, resulting in the Government declaring a 'state-of-emergency'. Thousands of people were enrolled into the O.M.S. (the Organisation for the Maintenance of Supplies), and into the Special Constabulary. British troops were deployed and used in an emergency role in commercial and industrial areas throughout Britain. Armoured cars and troops were escorting food convoy lorries. After 9 days the General Strike collapsed although the miners dispute continued for a further acrimonious 6 months. The political situation remained highly volatile and the economy continued to be increasingly unstable.

1927

June: 20 alleged British spies are reported to have been executed in Russia.

November: A prediction by Lt. General A. Montgomery-Massingham that "there could be only 20 years of peace before there was another war" was widely reported.

200 miners embarked on a highly publicised march of 180 miles from the Rhondda Valley in South Wales to demonstrate and protest.

1928

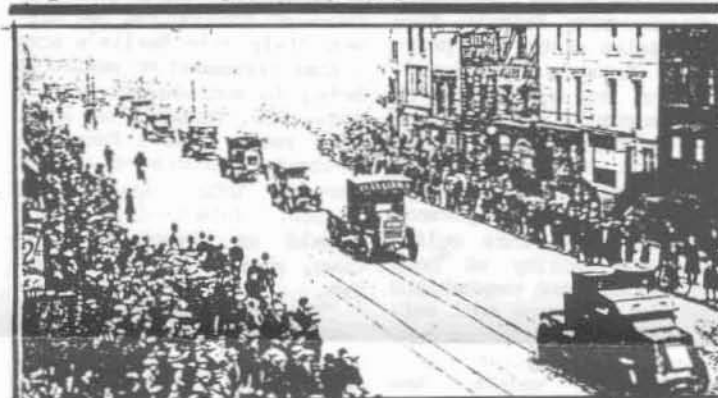
May: The Government authorises the Bank of England to issue 'paper-money', 10 shilling, £1 and £5 notes. The Labour Party warned that this policy would hit cash dependent workers and might cause a further recession.

August: Britain signs the "Pact for the Renunciation of War". USA and Germany were among the 15 signatories.

IN HIS RECOLLECTIONS of the years 1932-1939, the author believes that the significance of the previous 7 years, his entire teenage life, should first be considered. The earlier in the Scouting Movement with its woodcraft, camping and the rest. The latter at weekends and holidays in rock climbing and fell walking in the Lake District and Cheviot Hills. In winter, his energies were absorbed in club rugby.

"The relevance of these vigorous activities" he writes, "lies not in the recreational pastimes, but in the group discussions at the end of the day's activities, especially in Y.C.A. accommodation and rugby training sessions. Following a hot shower, 20 or 30 fit young men, with adrenalin running high, would bandy a wide range of topics including political and economic news events, often leading to further investigation and discussions. In the Y.C.A. participants were from all walks of life, from all over Britain, and often from continental Europe."

They were the "impressionable years - 'embryonic years' which preceded my political awakening."



Military protection for a food convoy leaving East India Docks in the General Strike in 1926

1929

May: The General Election results in a stalemate. The Tories received most votes; Labour most seats; Liberals held the balance.

June: The Labour Party forms a government and announces that reducing unemployment would be given top priority; in foreign affairs there would be a resumption of diplomatic relations with Russia and a vigorous pursuit of disarmament.

October: Virtually all the British press sensationally headline and report as "Horrendous!" the 'Wall Street' crash. The economic effects of this event soon reverberated disastrously throughout the industrialised nations of the world.

1930

February: The Archbishop of Canterbury denounced the Soviets for "the long and shocking tale of the imprisonment, the exile, and

deliberate putting to death of prelates and parish priests, of monks, and nuns, and the humblest folk".

March: Unemployment is reported to have increased by 500,000 to 1.5 million.

May: Sir Oswald Mosley is reported to have stormed out of the Government in protest over unemployment. The Prime Minister, Ramsay MacDonald had given him specific responsibilities for dealing with the problem. Sir Oswald is said to be furious at the rejection of his blueprint for the direction of industry and of huge investment to promote expansion.

June: Tory opposition propose a cut in unemployment benefits. The government rejects a plan for a Channel Tunnel between England and France.

August: In 14 months British unemployed have nearly doubled, with a figure of over 2 million announced by the Ministry of Labour.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



'**ROBERT RICHARD**' was one of the earliest members of the BUF's Newcastle Branch, within a month of the birth of the Movement. He was later its District Leader, and was awarded the Bronze Distinction, to "be worn as a sign of the Leader's appreciation of his service and devotion to the Cause".

As war clouds gathered he added the Territorial Army to his activities. Called up at outbreak of the War, he later volunteered for the Paras.

Parachuted into Normandy with the 12 Bn Parachute Regiment in early hours of D Day, he was wounded in the fighting to capture the village of Breville, vital to prevent a German counter attack on the invasion beach-head, at the cost of 141 of his Para comrades.

After 6 years of war service he became active in the Mosley Book Clubs, and in Union Movement's early days until joining a government service. He holds the T.A. and C.D. Corps Long Service Medals and in 1953 was awarded the Queen's Coronation Medal for voluntary service in the East Coast and North Devon flood disasters.

Later he spent several years in a British dominion before returning to retire to his native North, and although in his 80s, required little persuasion from *Comrade's* editor to spend two years writing memoirs of his British Union branch, a digest of which we start to serialise in this issue.

It is the first known history of a Blackshirt Branch, and given the ages of the small band of our Blackshirt comrades still with us, it is likely to be the last.

Unemployed demonstrators clash with police in East London.

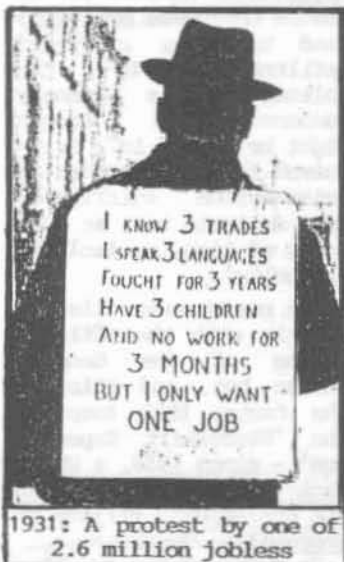
November: The London School of Economics survey says London has better education, less larceny, but

An old Blackshirt looks back

by ROBERT RICHARD



Jobless queuing outside Labour Exchange in early 1930s



1931: A protest by one of 2.6 million jobless

lower morals and more fraud than in 1980.

December: Oswald Mosley's Manifesto advocating a public works programme to meet the economic crisis is published.

1931

February: The New Party is formed by Sir Oswald Mosley. It is dedicated to a "complete revision of parliament to change it from a talk-shop to a workshop". The New Party is to be "a party of action" said Sir Oswald, "we will harness modern machinery and ask for a mobilisation of energy, vitality and manhood to save the nation".

June: Unemployment is now 2.6 million.

August: The Labour Government is dead and the nation is suffering its worst financial crisis. An all-party "Government of Co-operation" is formed to cope with the emergency. The Bank of France and the New York Federal Reserve each lend the Bank of England £25 million. The crisis becomes uncontrollable

when Sir Montague Norman, Governor of the Bank of England, warns the Prime Minister that national bankruptcy is near. New York bankers agree to give Britain £60 million in short-term credit.

September: The pound sterling is devalued by 30%; servicemen's pay is cut by 25%; police pay cut by 10%; weekly unemployment 'dole' also reduced from 15 to 13 shillings.

Violent clashes between thousands of unemployed and police continue to flare up. Finally, 12,000 ratings, crews of 15 Royal Navy ships of the Atlantic Fleet, mutinied at Invergordon.

October: A General Election is called. The National Government stays in power after the largest landslide in history. Voters have overwhelmingly given the all-party government the "doctors" mandate blank cheque it sought for continuing the economic treatment. There are no signs that the party leaders who earlier teamed-up on a temporary basis to deal with the crisis want to revert to normal party politics despite their differences.

November: The Government is bringing in the popular Prince of Wales in an effort to give the "Buy British" campaign a boost. It also aims to promote British goods overseas. It is also rushing through parliament a law to curb the dumping of goods which have been flooding in from Europe and Russia.

1932

February: Serious riots following a demonstration in Bristol, protesting against high unemployment, results in many casu-

alties.

April: Five men are arrested after a 'mass trespass' in which thousands of hikers went for a walk on Kinder Scout, near Edale in the Peak District. Most moors are privately owned and used for grouse shooting.

May: 23 Dartmoor convicts are sentenced to between 6 months and 12 years for a prison revolt.

October: Moscow: Stalin threatens trade reprisals against Britain for ending the Anglo-USSR trade agreement.

Compton Mackenzie's book "Greek Memories" is withdrawn for revealing who headed the Secret Service in the Great War. He was later fined for a breach of the Official Secrets Act.

2,000 hunger-marchers from all over Britain were

being reported day-by-day in most newspapers as they converged on London where they were joined by many more thousands of supporters.

Over four days rioting occurred in Trafalgar Square requiring 5,000 police to contain the situation.

In some quarters there was a belief that the marchers led by the Communist run National Unemployed Workers Movement were funded and orchestrated from Moscow.

Seven years of continuing economic crisis; continuing unemployment; political ineptitude and decline covering the impressionable years.

For me, the call to "Buy British" was becoming "Britain Awake!"

1932/3: The Awakening

'I was there!'

THE APPEARANCE on the inner-city streets of Newcastle of young men wearing a distinctive styled black shirt during the later part of 1932, gave rise to some curiosity and talk:

"Have you seen those fellows wearing black shirts?"....

"Who are those fellows wearing blackshirts?"

Through the streets 'grape-vine' the answer quickly got around:

"Oh, them! They're Mosley's men".

By 1931, most newspaper readers had read something about Oswald Mosley. His resignation from the Labour Government had itself made sensational headlines in 1930. It could be said that few could claim to not to have heard of him.

"Oh, yes? He tried to form a new political Party - didn't he? What is he up to now?"

Now some 60-odd years on I feel it a duty to

attempt to recall some of the events and incidents relating to the establishment of the BUF in 'Geordieland'.

The first Newcastle Branch HQ of two upper rooms was opened in Shakespeare Street, opposite the stage-door of the City's famous Theatre Royal.

The first Organiser was Captain Arthur Collier, popularly known as Vincent Collier who had been given the task of recruiting a local active membership and gaining support for Mosley's Movement. Bespectacled, moustached and short in stature he was a gifted speaker, equally competent in handling a thought provoking address, to a small discussion and questioning group, or a large factory crowd in the market place.

I came on the scene about a month before the first supplies of *The Greater Britain* arrived. Until then a copy of Mosley's Manifesto was available, and an invitation

continued page 6

5 1933: 'In the North East, there still existed a 'grass-roots'

ion to accompany Captain Collier to three small private meetings he was having with local organisations within the following ten days.

I was greatly impressed by the study of the Manifesto, having at that time a very elementary political awareness and vague understanding of governmental economics. The meetings with Captain Collier had well prepared me for the reading of The Greater Britain which had arrived in mid-October. Before the end of that first month of October 1932 I had enrolled in the Newcastle Branch of the BUF.

My attendance at the Branch during the next four winter months was no more than desultory, but I saw enough to realise that the planned purpose of Arthur Collier's first winter-programme was to instruct and prepare potential speakers, and to widen and deepen members' understanding of the aims and objectives of the BUF.

I recall that visitors calling at Branch HQ on evenings of special gatherings of members were confronted by a large Union Jack covering the wall facing the entrance, the 'Union' flag underlined by rows of blackshirted young men and women.

Invariably the Branch members meeting was a 30 minute discourse on, and or analysis of the political and economic news making current headlines in the national press. At some meetings a potential local speaker would be encouraged to give a 5 minute talk on a chosen section of The Greater Britain. 'Question and Answer' sessions in which all present were able to participate directly was a popular evening activity.

A visitor on these occasions could not fail to notice the intense patriotism and equally strong anti-communist feeling which pervaded headquarters.

What is impressed on my memory of these formative months, is the enthusiastic eagerness to learn, impatience to get out and spread the Mosley message and fulfill O.M.'s call for "action!".

pride in the British Empire'

As the 1932-33 winter drew to a close, District Officer Bill Jordan proposed with great enthusiasm his idea for propagating the Movement's aims: 'to rent an old closed-down cinema, convert and re-open it as a Centre for the unemployed, with free hot drinks and a sandwich available. But it would be so organised that an instructional lecture would be a preliminary requirement. A further development would be overnight beds.

Bill Jordan, in his 50s and a local small business man, did not have the political charisma of Captain Collier, nor could it be said that he was a skilled speaker but nevertheless, his idea greatly excited and appealed to many of the young and inexperienced members. However, the Spring of 1933 arrived and the outdoor programme of meetings and downtown 'street sales' had got under way and gaining momentum, and nothing more was heard of the idea.

There were a number of impromptu initiatives which became enthusiastic talking points among young members at the Branch members meetings as that first 'summertime' programme of Branch outdoor activities got underway.

There was the small blackshirted teams of 2 or 3 that would pre-select a residential suburb and leaflet door-to-door. Other small teams started to 'knock on doors' offering literature for sale, but there was one exercise which became a local talking point for months to come - an expedition led by a Union Jack deep into the 'heart of the North East communist country'!

Led by Tommy Moran, then a potential BUF local speaker undergoing training, a picked body of seven in two cars to the large village of Chopwell, (now a small town), about 10 miles from Newcastle in West County Durham. Parking about 300 yards from the market place, they formed in column of three by two and with Tommy at the head carrying a Union Jack standard, they marched to the market place.

After marching around

the square once. The Union Jack, still fluttering in the breeze, was taken over by one of the Blackshirts and with another, marched several paces at right-angles to the pavement, halted, and placed the butt-end of the flag on the ground. At the same time, two Blackshirts began to hand out literature to passers-by and the remainder, including T.M., with some exaggerated deliberation, unfolded and set up a small rostrum. The Blackshirt marched arrival had, as would be expected, not gone without notice and about 20 people had gathered curious to know 'what was going on'.

Tommy stepped on to the rostrum and began to speak, the sound of his voice attracting more to the scene. The flag continued to flutter, the breeze was cold. Two Blackshirts with free literature strolled to the other side of the square, but their main purpose was to access the clarity of the speaker's voice.

For about five minutes Tommy's speech followed a normal pattern. The audience had grown to around 40 when a single voice shouted: "Mosley's a turncoat!". From that moment the speech changed in character and became a harangue for another twenty minutes, concluding with the speaker asking for questions. There were none.

The meeting closed and the Blackshirts marched off as they had arrived, several people on the way asking for literature. The total time spent in Chopwell was little more than a half-hour. As the cars drove out of the village a lone policeman was noticed cycling to the village!

Chopwell, why Chopwell?, one may ask for this first 'Blackshirt Expedition'.

To get the answer, and the full significance of the exploit one must go back in local contemporary history to the miners strike leading to the 1926 General Strike.

Chopwell achieved notoriety throughout the North East coal-mining region when, at the height of public disturbances, road-blocks and barricades were

set-up and manned continuously for several days, preventing entry to the village and local pit-head workings. In addition, the Hammer & Circle Red Flag was, with ceremony hoisted and continued to fly over a local public building. Police efforts to gain entry to the village were refused, and people coming into or leaving the village were questioned at the road-blocks; normal food supply and other essential service vehicles were all halted and checked-out to ensure they were not being used to cover entry and infiltration by the police. It was strongly rumoured that "troops might be called in", criticised in some quarters as 'mischievous stirring-up of a delicate but, at that point of time, an isolated extremity'.

The resistance collapsed quietly with the official ending of the General Strike but, and this was the factor that inspired the 'Blackshirt Expedition' - since 1926, a Union Jack had never flown in the coal-mining village of Chopwell!

In spite of the crushing economic despression, notwithstanding the high average unemployment of one in four throughout Britain, one in three in the North East, there still existed a 'grass-roots' pride in the British Empire. Our schools still taught our children its historical achievements; the geography lesson still proudly displayed the world maps clearly showing the British Empire on which the sun never set. Youth organisations in most of our cities still participated in the Empire Day Parade.

Yes! the proud carrying of the "Union" flag into Chopwell, County Durham, by that 'magnificent seven' was an adventure in the true spirit of Britain.... a spirit:

"Sprung from that generation
Who died in the mud of
Flanders; they
were the voices
Of the dead Battalions
who
Died that Britain
might be great."

(to be continued)

Beckett on Beckett



John Beckett speaking in Limehouse in support of British Union candidates in the LOC Elections, 1937

JOHN WARBURTON BECKETT was certainly a volatile man. He married three times and was active in four different political parties. And of course he was the M.P. who stole the Mace in Parliament as a protest. The first person to carry it off since Oliver Cromwell.

But his heart appears to have been in the right place. Horrified by the carnage of the First World War and the slums that remained afterwards, he became a convinced socialist. But a socialist with a difference. For Beckett was to write: "I found in the British Union of Fascists far more sincere and earnest socialist conviction than I had seen in the Labour Party for 10 years".

In the May issue of *History Today* his son Francis Beckett wrote a 7-page study of his father's life that lucidly describes his character. Beckett Senior was always passionate about his beliefs. But his spirit was restless and he was always seeking new outlets to implement them.

Inevitably British Union was bound to become one such outlet for such a man.

After the First World War, Beckett quickly established himself in the Labour Movement. He lived in the same house as future Prime Minister Clement Attlee and campaigned tirelessly for him in his successful bid to become M.P. for Limehouse. Beckett himself was to become Labour's youngest M.P. and was unofficial Whip of the Independent Labour Party. He soon became disillusioned by the lack of social urgency he found in those circles and donned the Blackshirt in March 1934.

BY GORDON BECKWELL

Beckett's energy and personal talents were soon recognised. He became a full-time official, a formidable speaker, and from 1936-37, editor of *ACTION*.

Throughout his life he appears to have felt the need to serve some great man to whom he could become devoted. For the moment anyway. First it was John Wheatley the ILP leader, then Oswald Mosley and later the Duke of Bedford. Between these however, was another, William Joyce.

Beckett met Joyce in British Union and they became close friends. When Joyce was expelled by Mosley in the Spring of 1937 for being a devious influence, Beckett predictably resigned in protest. No doubt if there had been a mace handy he would have left with that too. Together the two men founded the National Socialist League which failed to get off the ground. It didn't help when the NSL's chief financial backer, Alex Scrimgeour of Chichester, died a few weeks after its foundation.

Before long, Beckett was cooling his loyalty to Joyce. Perhaps he saw where Joyce's character was leading him - this American citizen who spent most of the Second War mocking his adopted fellow countrymen and women in the hour of their greatest need. Few should shed tears when he was afterwards hung for treason.

But perhaps there was another and more personal reason. Joyce was becoming more vitriolic in his anti-semitism. And Beckett's secret was that his mother, Dorothy Solomon, was from an ultra-Orthodox Jewish family, a secret he guarded so well that son Francis only discovered it years after his father's death. Either way, John left the NSL and before long had nailed his colours to the mast of the Duke of Bedford's British Peoples Party where he continued to campaign for Peace and Socialism - interrupted only by 3½ years detention during the war under Regulation 18B.

Despite his lack of sustained support for Mosley, one cannot help having a sneaking admiration for this self-less, hardworking campaigner lurching erratically around in his search for a better world.

In his book *I Believed* the

LAST POST: Denis Gourdon

A LIFETIME of devotion to Mosley sadly came to an end with the death on June 5th of Australia, where he had lived for many years, of **DENIS GOURDON** in his 75th year.

It was as a 17-year old that he took up the long march, when he joined Central Hackney Branch of British Union in April 1937, transferring to Worthing Branch when he moved there later that year. In May of 1938 he enlisted in the Royal Artillery and ceased to be an active member but retained his membership, transferring to Woolwich Branch during training in the town. When posted to the 1st Survey Co., RA at Larkhill, Hants, undeterred he transferred to Salisbury Branch!

On outbreak of war, Gunner/Surveyor Gourdon embarked for France with the 1st Survey Regt. At the end of the 'phony war' they moved into Belgium but were soon in general retreat and he spent three days 'on or about' the Dunkirk beaches before scrambling back to England in early June 1940. Three weeks later, after morning parade at Brandon, Norfolk he was arrested under Regulation 18B.

After a night in Methwold police station he was given his civilian clothes which the authorities had taken the trouble to collect from his home in Worthing. How thoughtful one might propose. Not at all. Government orders had gone out that servicemen detained under this Regulation should not be arrested in uniform. Bad for morale and there might be awkward questions on the justification of detention without charge or trial. Any thoughts that Denis had of less harsh treatment was soon dispelled when he was next entrained for Brixton Prison - in handcuffs. Three days later he was transferred to Walton Gaol, Liverpool, and in another three days to Ascuta Concentration Camp. After some months he was transferred to Huyton Camp, Liverpool and ultimately, Pewell Concentration Camp, Isle of Man in time to celebrate his 21st birthday! Our photograph shows him with his 'Battle Blouse' which some detainees put together from army blankets and canvas drill, by help of an old sewing machine found in one of the camp's houses.

He was finally released in April 1943 but under such restrictions that he felt worse off than in the camp. He had to reside at an agricultural workers hostel in Lancashire, and to report monthly to the local police. He could not enter the Metropolitan Police District or the counties of Surrey, Kent, Sussex and Hampshire without written permission from the Chief of Police of the area. Although applied for this permission was never granted which effectively cut him off from his family. The restrictions were finally removed as the war was drawing to a close at the end of 1944. After the war he was active in Mosley Book Clubs and early days of Union Movement before emigrating to Australia.

When in 1986 *Friends of O.M.* traced him he wrote "as a long-standing friend and comrade of O.M.", and shortly after the birth of *Comrade* of it representing "a living memory of our great Leader and his inspiring message."

A month before his death the new cassette *Mosley's Answers* was rushed to him as his wife Jean had told of his terminal illness and hoped it would arrive "in time". Which it did and she acknowledged that Denis had "listened to the tape with his eyes closed as if he was asleep, but I know he heard it all", reliving "so many happy memories." Our deepest sympathy to Jean, his wife of fifty years.



ex-communist Douglas Hyde recalled a amusing incident in which the Special Branch people who intercepted other peoples' mail made the mistake of putting a Beckett letter in Hyde's envelope and a Hyde letter in Beckett's. True to character, Beckett forwarded the letter he had received to Hyde. Hyde tore Beckett's up.

The swashbuckling charac-

ter who died in 1964 aged 70 working nights as a security guard for Securicor was clearly some kind of a gentleman.

● Francis Beckett is a freelance journalist and a former President of the National Union of Journalists. He is the author of a book on the Communist Party to be published later this year, and is working on his father's biography.

OBITUARIES

FRIENDS OF O.M. endeavours to keep close contact with all known old comrades. However, it is often that they live alone and we do not hear of their passing until we initiate enquiries when realised that contact has been lost. Such are those who we now remember in this issue.

W.Z. SEDDON

We learn from old comrade Gordon Gee of Manchester that our old ex-seaman comrade **BILL SEDDON** of Bolton, passed away on June 6 1993 at the age of 86.

Comrade readers will recall Bill's contribution in a previous issue of his memoirs as crew member of **HMS Escapade** in the second Battle of Narvik in 1940.

BILL SEDDON, who also had suffered the horrific hardships of the Russian convoys in the last war. He had spent all his boyhood at sea which was his great love - "I never wished to do anything else, I ever had the sea fever" he once said.

During the depression after the 1929 Wall Street crash jobs at sea were hard to come by and he learned the trade of a bricklayer but continued to learn the rudiments of seamanship with the RNVR which enabled him to serve for three months on a destroyer on patrol off the Spanish coast during the civil war. This, with some help from a ship's officer, got him a job in one of the O.P.R. Lines big passenger ships. As a naval reservist he was called up in July 1939, and when the war was over, when asked by an old shipmate what he was to do in 'civvy street', that he was going back to sea he was told "you must be bonkers"! He did in fact 'go back' and from 1946 to his retirement in 1976 was a purser in the Merchant Navy. In his last years he expressed sorrow that due to the alarming shrinkage of Britain's merchant fleet, few opportunities exist for young men with similar desires for these to be realised.

Bill Seddon had supported O.M. since the early 1930s when he had high hopes that he would become Prime Minister and be the leader that alone could remedy much of the evils then existing, particularly the plight of the ex-service men who "had survived the Holocaust of Flanders fields in the 1914-18 war, they who had been promised a 'land fit for heroes to live in', a broken promise that shattered any belief I ever had in a democratic society".

What high hopes for Britain if she still breeds such men as Bill Seddon?

DON O'BYRNE and LESLIE DODS

WE LEARN simultaneously of the death of two old members of Sth. Croydon Branch British Union.

DON O'BYRNE was an active member and speaker. He was detained during the war under the infamous 18B Regulation. He died in September 1992.

LESLIE DODS was non-active member but took part in many

of the big London marches. He is the brother of the late 'Big **BILL DODS** who died in 1984, also a Sth. Croydon member. He was also Accounts Administrator at Union Movement NHQ in the 1950s. **Leslie** died in June.

A.V. COATES

BERT COATES we learn died at his Sutton, Surrey home on 17 April 1993. He was an active member of South London **Mosley Book Club** after his discharge from Army, and active in early **Union Movement** and frequently spoke at meetings

Old Comrades



on Clapham Common.

He had been a 'Mosley Man' since a youngster in the late 1930s, like his parents who "always held Mosley in high esteem since a mass OM meeting outside our house in Aske Street, Hoxton... my mother always held him in high esteem and was always disgusted at the appalling treatment meted to him in 1940, and held Herbert Morrison with particular loathing."

Bert was in poor health in recent years and worried about Britain's decline since those days... "now so bent it is on the road to racial self-destruction. It defies all comprehension" he said, "and the ultimate horror can only be imagined. Such catastrophic changes have overwhelmed our country, one can hardly bring the horror of it to one's consciousness. It is simple incredible that such a disaster was allowed to occur."

He felt that "we of the older generation should quote to new generations of Britons", these lines from Shakespeare's speech of Henry IV:

The blood weeps from my heart, when I do shape, In forms imaginary, th' unguided days And rotten times, that you shall look upon When I am sleeping with my ancestors.

Let these words be his valediction.

MRS PHYLLIS MILLS

AS WE GO TO PRESS we hear from **Louise Irvine** of the death in a Colchester residential home in early July of **Mrs PHYLLIS MILLS**, formerly of Coggeshall, Suffolk. She was the daughter of **John Green**, a London East End member who moved to Colchester, and his daughter followed loyally in his footsteps. "She gave her support in whatever way she could, and her donations were most generous" said Mrs. Irvine. "We were able to take her to Ipswich to meet O.M. and Lady Diana when they came down after his 80th birthday."

-1944-IN MEMORIAM-1994-

- BOWIE, Alexander:** early active Blackshirt and Movement's cartoonist; his *Bowie's Annual* now collectors item; married **Blackshirt** and **Action** writer **Margaret Collins**; 25 May 1965
- BRODY, John:** British Union; Middlesex Regt W2; D/Tr. Epping Union Movement; mbr Worshipful Company of Blacksmiths, and Blacksmith's Guild; holder Queen's Commendation Medal for Bravery. 31 May 1992
- CAMPBELL, J.H.:** Manchester British Union and Union Movement. May 1992
- CANNETT, John:** policeman, teacher and early Blackshirt; RU Nat. Org. Midlands & East Anglia; later married **Margaret Hank**, OM's secretary at NHQ; at 83. 24 May 1991
- HAM, Jeffrey:** BUF; British Political Prisoner in Falklands & S. Africa; sec. British League of Ex-Servicemen 1946-48, later of Union Movement & Action Society; at 76. 1 May 1992
- McDONNELL, Hector George:** RFC pilot W1; Vice-Consul La Ceiba, Honduras 1922/30; British Union N/Insp, Nat. Meetings Organiser & Senior Admin. Off. London; British Political Prisoner; OM's secretary Union Movement. 29 May 1972
- MITCHELL, Unity Valkyrie:** sister of Lady Mosley. 28 May 1948
- PORTER, Wally:** Dorset British Union; British Political Prisoner; Union Movement. May 1981
- ROWE, Vice-Admiral G.B., RN CB OMC:** British Union D/Ldr & Parl. Candidate, Portsmouth. 27 May 1992
- RUDGE, Frederick:** Mosley supporter in Labour Party, New Party, British Union & Union Movement. May 1965
- REESDALE, Lady:** mother of Lady Mosley. May 1963
- SCOTT, Arthur:** Notts British Union; British Political Prisoner; Union Movement. May 1959
- BAINES, Derek Talbot:** early Blackshirt; BUF "I" Squad. Summer 1961
- BROWN, Charles:** British Union D/Ldr Wavertree, Liverpool; British Political Prisoner; Union Movement; Organiser, Salford. June 1962
- BROWNING, Kenneth Thomas:** Exeter British Union; kin & friend of D/Ldr Jack Forward; RAF W2. 5 June 1969
- CHAMBERLAIN, John:** Limehouse British Union; of Blackshirt family; Gunner Egypt, Italy, Palestine W2. June 1981
- CLARKE, Bill:** Union Movement Tr. N/W London Branch 1970-74. June 1999
- GOUGH, Victor:** son of 'Bowie' Gough; British Political Prisoner then RAF W2. 27 June 1975
- HILL, Walter:** D/Ldr Enfield British Union 1939, then Army. 1992
- HUSON, Commander C.E. OBE RD RNR(Rtd):** British Union D/Ldr Bognor; British Political Prisoner, Camp Leader Hymton Concentration Camp. June 1948
- MANNING, Herbert:** Hackney British Union speaker; British Political Prisoner, then Army, Navy and Fleet Air Arm HQ, Malta; life-long supporter of Oswald Mosley; at 75. 1992
- MOSLEY, Maud Lady:** OM's mother; Head of Womens BUF in early days. 20 June 1948
- NICHOLS, Tommy:** South London British Union. June 1981
- PERKINS, Peter:** British Union's 'Peter Heyward'; author of pamphlets *Menace of Chain Stores*, *Shopkeepers at War*, 1939-40, & editor monthly *British Trader*, 1939. June 1977
- SWAN, Arthur:** British Union D/Tr. Lowestoft; British Political Prisoner; Camp Leader Ascot Concentration Camp; life-long supporter OM. June 1993
- TEMPLE COOTON, Rufe:** British Union Nat. Insp. Devon; Parl. Candidate Exeter; British Political Prisoner. 18 June 1985
- TRESDEN, George:** early E/London UM supporter, brother of Arthur 'Uncle' Tresden; at 93; 3 June 1969
- VERALL, Stan:** British Union speaker; RAF W2; S/London Union Movement. June 1989
- WAINWRIGHT, William:** father of H.S. Wainwright of Wainwright Brush Factories, East London; at 87. 30 June 1955
- WHITE, Albert:** early Union Movement after Army W2; local election cand. N/W London Branch; in Lancashire. June 1991
- BRUNING, Maurice:** Ealing British Union; one of 5 Ealing Blackshirt brothers; Clement died in German concentration camp 1942 when Guy in British concentration camp. 11 July 1970
- CRABTREE, Bill:** Bury, Lancashire British Union & Union Movement. July 1975
- DONWAN, Captain B.D.E.:** British Union Asst. Dir. Gen. 1940; British Political Prisoner; married 1940 Womens Drum Corps Drum Major **Heather Bond**; served W1 at 16; with Lawrence of Arabia; Third Afghan War with 129th Baluchis D.C.O. 26 July 1985
- DOWDY, John:** British Union Parl. Cand. Evesham; National Farmers Union; British Political Prisoner; Union Movement. July 1978
- GOUGH, Joseph 'Bowie':** Birmingham British Union Drum Corps; British Political Prisoner after Army Dunkirk evacuation. July 1963
- HANCOCK, Alan:** Croydon British Union Union Movement; Sussex printer. July 1999
- SCOTT, George:** British Union D/Ldr. Richmond; British Political Prisoner. 28 July 1978
- SHEPHERD, Phil:** British Union agent Middleton & Prestwich Bye-Election 1940; British Political Prisoner, victim of M15s Camp Q20 Interrogation Centre, Ham Common; post-war in Holy Orders. 14 July 1987
- TAYLOR, Harry:** Shoreditch Union Movement; husband of Vicky. July 1961

COMRADE

Incorporating ACTION and UNION

Newsletter of Friends of Q.M.



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'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'

August/October 1994

'I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it'...Voltaire

Forget foreign spies and terrorists - indigenous British now 'subverters'

'THOUGHT POLICE' FOR THE BRITISH

Voltaire now 'politically incorrect'

By ROBERT ROW

DEMOCRACY is in great danger. Who says so? M15's newish Director-General Mrs Stella Rimington who feels the threat to be serious enough to break the security services tradition of secrecy and silence in June to tell us at her Richard Dimbleby lecture that "Groups of the extreme Right are seeking to undermine democracy through the exploitation of racial hatred..." and that her security service was taking steps to prevent anything so terrible happening.

Isle of Man Museum Scandal



Manx National Heritage
English Heritage Partner

joins the 'politically correct'

A summer exhibition at the Manx Museum ending in September claimed to chronicle "Civilian Internment in the Isle of Man during two World Wars."

In regard to the Second World War it did nothing of the sort and is nothing short of an academic and public scandal.

Internment of enemy aliens is exercised by all warring countries. What was different in the last war and thus of major historical significance was

Perhaps Mrs Rimington has picked up a few ideas from the 'new' Russia's President Yeltsin and some of the KGB old lags, now 'good democrats' with whom she said in her lecture she had been conversing - to provide "advice and support for the reorganised and reorientated security services, particularly to help them establish a democratic framework for their work", a sort of exchange of views and advice. Although Boris Yeltsin knows a thing or two about handling his own 'democratic subverters', such as his directed army attack on his own parliamentary 'dissidents', it must be said, to be fair to Mrs Rimington, she would

the British Government's suspension of Habeas Corpus, enabling the executive to imprison without charge or trial hundreds of its own citizens which the age-old law was created to prevent, the majority interned in the Isle of Man.

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regard such rough-shod action as contrary to British tradition. After all, her own services 'dirty trick' brigade have long experience of dealing with dissident opinion.

However, we must remember that 'racism', that new-fangled word which covers a lot of territory - even a hope of a white Christmas will be regarded by some as a 'racist' remark, was first coined by Soviet disinformation propaganda, as a tool to undermine the West, a placement of a guilt complex on a society to be used in the control of immigration from Third World countries, and which has been so successful.

Mrs Rimington now sees it as standing on a par, or even replacing, the traditional threats of subversion in all forms by foreign governments or groupings for which M15 was originally founded.

Add to this the threat of Black MP Diane Abbott around the time of this year's local elections when the 'politically correct' brigade feared East Londoners might elect a 'racist' candidate using the proper democratic process, that "the 'racists' will be swept of the streets", or similar words at a public meeting, her rhetoric surely an incitement to violence and chargeable under the Act, a normal, reasonable, howbeit 'politically incorrect' man might ask:

"Who now stands with British democracy's High Priest of Freedom of Speech, Voltaire, and from whom comes the danger to democracy?"

"I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it", the words of the philosopher long held as an essential element in the democratic process, achieving almost immortality, trotted out by politicians, press and pulpit

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

BROCKING AND DAY

First Official Casualties
George T.22, & Kenneth G.20, RAF 9 Sqdn: voluntary air gunners and Blackshirt comrades: killed in action Kell Canal bombing German Fleet second day of war: Brocking named on Air Force Memorial, Runnymede with 20,546 other Allied airmen with no known grave: Day first buried with full military honours by Luftwaffe at Oxy-haven Cemetery: now lies in Becklingen War Cemetery, Soltau, Germany.

4 September 1939

BUNTING, Clement: Blackshirt speaker, HQ Admin Officer and Parl. Cand. Wood Green: one of five Felling Black-shirt brothers: died German concentration camp when brother GUY in British concentration camp; at 31: lies in Gracow Cemetery, Poland. 17 August 1942

LING, Pte. W.F.: REME reservist: Norwood British Union: killed in action Normandy: remembered Services Panel, Norwood Cemetery.

27 October 1944

LUCAN, P/Off Dennis DEM: RAF (VR): 207 & 607 Dambuster Sqdn: age 21: killed in action over Kembs Dam: lies in Dambach Cemetery, Germany.

7 October 1944

YEATMAN, St/Sgt F.J.: Glider Pilot Regt Army Air Corps: age 28: killed in action Arnhem: lies in Oosterbeek War Cemetery, Holland.

24 September 1944

every time a non-establishment figure advocated action instead of talk, as those who over many years supported Oswald Mosley's ideas know so well. Nevertheless, even if they who preached the loudest aspired to its sentiments only in lip-service, the appeal remained as something basic to the British way of life among ordinary people.

I cannot recall the last time it was quoted in the media, or uttered in either House, of that alleged bastion of democracy, the British House of Parliament.

But to return to Mrs. Rimington, who was surely the first woman to be

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Cost effective?

THE CURRENT political 'in-words' that are being bandied around by Government, Opposition and others of such ilk, are "Values" and "Monetarism".

This year, June and July, two historical events have been commemorated, 6th June, 50th Anniversary of D-Day, and 27th July, 300th Birthday of the Bank of England.

The publicity given by the media to each were in stark contrast. Nevertheless they had one thing in common. A commemorative coin was issued: D-Day, a 50 pence coin, and the Bank of England, a £2.00 coin.

Was this gesture to illustrate by monetary measurement in 1994 a considered appreciation of the comparative value of the two historic events?

While D-Day cost many thousands of lives, the birth of the Bank of England in 1694 established a debt to the British taxpayer of £1.2 million sterling.

There now remains, after 50 years, no more than a remnant of the generation who made the supreme sacrifice on the Normandy beaches.

On the other hand, after 300 years, the British taxpayer is forced to pay, annually, many many billions of pounds sterling just to service the level

OUR Newcastle BUF historian **ROBERT RICHARD** does not dwell just on the past. Here is a view on current affairs

of National Debt to which the original loan has risen.

There appears to be an imbalance, somewhere?

This imbalance existed after World War 1 and 27 years later, after World War 2, had become even greater.

And now 50 years on, historical recognition is gained by striking and issue of a legal tender coin. Available to any and everyone - providing they buy it!

To quote Oswald Mosley in 1938:

"As long as the people can be gullied into the belief that they are free today so long can their slavery be perpetuated. Therefore, every instrument of the financial tyranny from party machines to national Press is mobilised behind a barrage of money power to resist the principle that power belongs to the people alone, and that their power can only be expressed by giving their chosen Government power to act.

That such power in Government does not exist today can scarcely be denied".

Nor in 1994

snakes is working night and day to defend democracy! But if democracy is in such dire peril, how come its leaders, Tory MPs, who should be setting an example, have been wasting their time in nights of sleaze, getting involved with the wrong sort of actress or indulging in 'bizarre sex acts'?

Others were forced to resign their parliamentary jobs because of friendship with fugitive tycoon **Asil Nadir** or because it was alleged they took money for tabling questions in Parliament. Ever since the last election Prime Minister Major has had a long string of lurid resignations. Tories who went to Westminster to roar like lions but instead shot themselves in the foot.

But what is this democracy they are supposed to be leading and defending? Much of it covers local

government, and some authorities are spending huge sums to ensure their officials are 'politically correct'. In August the Sunday Telegraph revealed there were 200 consultancies training council officials in 'political correctness'. Some consultants were making £35,000 a year! Courses included "Understanding the white conditioning that causes racism" and "Self-Employment for black women". All paid for courtesy of the tax-payer!

This is nothing less than training for the 'thought police', which we have always understood existed only in dictatorships.

Some black women don't need any training in "self-empowering" themselves, however. In August the daughter of a wealthy Nigerian chief got 3½ years for running Britain's biggest benefits fraud. Fraudster **Atobbele** netted £90,000 for herself in 20 months from bogus claims. She headed an 11-strong gang (eight of them illegal immigrants) on the same racket. Some £750,000 was spent of legal aid defending the gang. Once again the taxpayer pays.

But just as British democracy runs extensive training in 'thought police' work, so it gives house-room to some of the most violent anti-democratic organisations on earth. Even the Times protested in August against a rally of 8,000 Muslims at Wembley Arena; "This country's liberal asylum laws are easily used by those who preach intolerance and anti-Western hostility. The Iranian **Mujahidin** **Khalq** opposition, Kurdish **PKK** guerrillas, fundamentalists dissidents from Saudi Arabia, Tunisia and the Algerian **FIS** are among the more unsavoury groups that have set up bases here".

"Let them all come" says democracy, despite the fact that our towns and cities are now getting saturated with unknown illegal immigrants, legal and their British born offspring, who with increasing frequency are demanding the subversion of some of long established standards of the British way of life.

They cannot be described as the 'extreme Right', so

apparently Mrs. **Rimington** is not interested. But it is time the other public guardian of democracy Police Commissioner **Condon** got off the 'racist' bandwagon and entered the real world of policing. Murderer **Winston Silcott**, having been 'cleared' of his alleged second murder of **P.C. Blakelock**, is demanding £100,000 for "damages to his reputation" and has already had £10,000, while **P.C. Coombs**, another of **Condon's** policeman who suffered horrific injuries in the Broadwater Farm riot has only recently received compensation after a nine year wait.

To enjoy the hailed superiority of the democratic system as practised in Britain today, you need to be an M.P. who can vote yourself a pay rise of twice the inflation rate, or a pregnant service-woman, or the chief executive of a privatised water empire, or a tearaway young to be named. Be a boy burglar, and democracy will send you on a "therapy holiday" where you can burgle all the chalets. Be a baby-faced Artful Dodger, and democracy will fit you up with a £7,000 "character-building trip" around Africa, and then, like one particular villain, inspired and refreshed by democracy's educational initiative, go back to the pastimes which pay so well and when faced with further theft charges, laugh your head off when charged in court.

But the big crime of our times is apparently 'racial hatred' which in truth is the determination of the indigenous people of this island to continue the way of life and wordings used by our fathers, and refusal to be bludgeoned into the pipe-dream of a multi-racial society for which our 'democratic' system never received the peoples approval, and which they now dictate is subversion.

In not much more than half-a-century democracy has reduced our country to a third rate power. It now seeks to reduce us by force into a third-rate people.

Like M15, democracy stinks.

Salutations Voltaire. In remembrance.

1 'THOUGHT POLICE'

appointed to this top security post because of her ability and not for the political correctness of 'womens rights', who is she kidding?

Who said M15 was fit to take care of security of anything? Not long ago it was full of Soviet spies. When they were the prime enemy, M15's idea of making Britain secure was to recruit as many traitors as possible. Burgess, Maclean, Cairncross, Blunt to name a few of the Soviet agents adorned M15. Philby, another deadly enemy of his country, did great damage to its sister service M16 and was responsible for the deaths of many British agents.

But Mrs **Rimington**, a sort of cloak-and-dagger Mrs Thatcher, says this former nest of misfits, homo-sexuals and rattle-



84 years 'young' in October

As a member of a strong land owning Conservative family there was no sympathy for the strikers and the early sign of their revolutionary spirit in the 1926 General Strike. They were upsetting the equilibrium of our lives.

A young man of 16, I had hunter horses which I regularly and fearlessly rode in best riding equipment. The strikers had taken over the streets of Ipswich, and all National efforts must be mustered against them. I was asked to help to 'keep order' and offered first class hotel accommodation in Ipswich, stabling for my horses, and all expenses paid. The idea was that I should assist the police on horseback against the marching strikers. This I would have been able to do, but on thinking it over, in a sudden surge I found my sympathy was entirely with the strikers and that I could in no way act against them.

At that time it could be absolute that I did not join Mosley - his British Union was still unborn, both rather through his ideas, his outlook, his character which had already become part of my life as an early radical thinker far removed from the general political infamy seething in its corridors.

For a number of years I tried it alone during which I joined such venture as English Array and the English Mystery until I became closely aware of Mosley and his struggle. I then sacrificed all and did all to support our cause, knowing that therein laid the true purpose and strength.

From that early beginning emerged my determination from the fetus of the General Strike, to live in word, deed and resolution for a better balanced society and forward civilisation in which my country and humanity could reach greater height than the vulgar inequality and dominating misuse of the vulnerable masses, the rule of the past century. I knew that once I came into the open it would put no little sacrifice on my

'WHEN I JOINED MOSLEY'

I have often been asked "when did you first join Mosley" said RONALD CREASY in a letter to COMRADE, sparked by a mention of the 1926 General strike in the last issue, an event which for him was his 'first awakening'. He then went on with a brief answer to that question.

Reminded of his 84th birthday in October, and of his unique place in the history of the Mosley story - he was the first elected Blackshirt Councillor of Eye, Suffolk, where he still lives, with a Circle and Flash masthead flying high over an English countryside - we said, "Tell us more".

Which he did, and we take great pleasure in publishing 'the Creasy story'.

family and myself in public declamation of opposition to the political conservative decrees which had linked past and present in havoc of creed. The sharp division of one sphere of life in complete separation of the old ease and comfort or expectation of an insular, exclusive society concerned only with its own stability of conceptual values. Ultimately I saw a like mind and comparative circumstances in Sir Oswald Mosley rising like a Phoenix from the dust of a worn out system. The shambles of a political, shiftless autocracy masquerading as a democracy. The freedom of the few against the poverty and despair of the many.

Mosley lit the beacon flame which, in spirit, cannot be diminished. When the weariness and utter failure of the past regime demands a regenerative future the flame of Mosley's spirit will be the guiding light through the darkness. The horizon of a remedial age. His example, his sacrifice, our sacrifice will be repaid to our children and those to come in a healthy, cultural future.

The time when people will learn to give rather than what living for what they can take in ethical disbalance of the purpose of this volatile life. The spirit will live in the eternity of conscious probity deserving of those who struggle for better values. Those who supported Mosley's aims, giving their all, are pre-eminently to be of his spirit in acclamation of a true, ordained existence.

In my own humble but spirited efforts the crowning glory came in early 1939, before America had taken over the British Empire, when Mosley spoke to a sympathetic, packed assembly at Eye Town Hall with his speech relayed to the crowds outside who had been unable to get into the full Hall.

I had sat by his side, not a little stirred. When he had finished his speech he quietly said "show yourself, let them know you are here". I picked

up a copy of Tomorrow We Live on sale with other literature, and began my speech with 'read Tomorrow We Live and begin to live as many of you did when you first supported the Movement of the future'.

The annals of the fully awakened town and district of Eye had changed irrevocably. It established a foot upon the path for ever to remain a part of the signal call to a brighter future.

A future in a true United Europe of European people



'Here I stand' his battle 'banner' flying over his Suffolk countryside

which Mosley, long before, had advocated as a necessity in a changing world.

So - 'When did I join'. I have answered the question. It was automatic. The date was there when I was born, unknown to my childhood. Unconscious to my wandering thoughts, unconscious in direction but first clearly engendered during the General Strike.

1 Museum Scandal

In what can only be seen as a deliberate decision of the contemporary American scourge 'Political Correctness' the Marx National Heritage Museum has 'written out' of British history the major historical fact of the Second World War's internment, that of Britain's own citizens. There was not an exhibit or even a mention of the fact. For the knowledge seeking casual visitor, the student researcher, it never happened.

The first report of this academic fraud was a report from a disgusted Marx resident who protested that it was Mosley's men at Peel camp that was most talked about by the locals and yet the exhibition not only pretended they had never existed but to add insult to injury, devoted the entire show to art work and experiences of enemy aliens, a prominent role being that of one who had "only spent 5 weeks interned".

We took up the issue with the exhibition organiser who admitted that that "no craft or art items by known British Fascist detainees or by Fascist/Nazis of other nationalities" were exhibited. In a further letter she submitted that detainment was somehow a separate issue from internment and that it

was "poor in objects, photographs and oral history testimony". There was a shortage of space and a decision had to be made to ensure that the exhibition did not become "an unillustrated 'book on the wall'" and that its "selective nature" was to show "ways that internees came to terms with internment and the resultant material culture produced (craft and artwork)". The lack of such objects made it "unsuitable for a Museum exhibition but more appropriate for a researched publication drawing together existing sources". ("Comrade" underline). The major question of why no British citizen involvement remained unanswered.

However, coincidental with the correspondence, we received the exhibition's accompanying glossy book, Living With the Wire, edited by the organiser and published by Marx National Heritage and The Marx Museum and National Trust. A promotional leaflet said it had "70 pages packed with pictures, illustrations, sketches and information showing how quickly the human spirit and ingenuity asserted themselves, leaving tangible testimonies in music, literature and visual arts". In fact the sort of material

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How the B.U.F came to Geordieland: 2

THE FIRST YEAR

THE official programme planned by the BUF's Newcastle Branch first organiser, Captain Vincent Collier, in those formative months of early 1933, revolved around street literature sales on Friday nights and Saturday afternoons in the inner-city shopping area, and Sunday afternoon/evening meetings in the Bigg Market. About once a month a street corner meeting was held in a chosen residential area following a door-to-door leafleting of surrounding streets.

In early 1933, the black shirt and lapel fasces badge was looked upon with polite indifference by the general public, and with little more than curiosity by close acquaintances. In those early months, the media was divided on the BUF in its opinion forming articles.

The first four or five Sunday outdoor meetings were normal and orderly. They would be opened by a trainee speaker. Within several minutes a crowd of 3-4 dozen would have gathered and the principle speaker, Arthur Collier would be introduced.

I have said that Collier was "short in stature" yet he had a very strong voice which he could project with consummate ease. He knew his subject thoroughly, and his presentation was cleverly crafted and constructed. His technique was very professional. His oratory was so effective that, within 10 minutes he was drawing people from

WE LEFT veteran Blackshirt ROBERT RICHARD at the end of the first three months of his history of the BUF's Newcastle Branch. He continues with the next twelve months, 1933. A year of struggle to establish a foothold in depressed Tyneside, and to learn the reality of Mosley's prophesy, that those who marched with him would face abuse, misunderstanding animosity, and the ferocity of struggle and danger.



The legendary TOMMY MORAN became a fluent speaker and was promoted District Officer in 1933. A former Royal Navy boxing champion he is seen here three years later, receiving first aid treatment after being felled with a barbed wire-covered chair leg

adjacent meetings in the Bigg Market, Newcastle's 'Hyde Park Corner'.

There would be about a dozen blackshirted members at those early meetings. Some were aspiring speakers, others sold literature. After about 40 minutes questions from the audience were invited. This was the period that most of the uncommitted 'regulars' would be looking forward to. It was a time when the cut-and-thrust of open-air debate could, in normal circumstances, be entertaining. And so it was until the end of the second month of the Sunday meetings. Then a change in the crowd demeanor took place.

First, the usual odd heckler was displaced by several well dispersed, derogatory and abusive slogan shouters. More often than not the Speaker could handle these interruptions to advantage, gaining crowd sympathy. Two meetings later, the interruptions were coming from small concentrated groups, prepared to intimidate objectors to their tactics in their vicinity. Next, the young Blackshirts engaged in crowd-fringe literature sales were asked

what appeared to be an information seeking question which was quickly escalated into an argument. This occurred in several places simultaneously on the fringe, contributing to an untenable interruption.

When an incident occurred resulting in the seizure and destruction of literature, Collier called in the sales team, and, sensing a 'victory', the 'reds', for such they were, began singing the "Red Flag". However, the voice effort of the 20 or so, was met with some derision by the crowd. The meeting was brought to a close and the crowd told that literature was available at the rostrum.

For the first time after a Bigg Market meeting the Blackshirts formed up and marched back to their HQ. Several people later called, bought literature, and two new members were enrolled.

The following Sunday the meeting returned to reasonable normalcy other than some increase in heckling and organised shouted abuse. Literature was available from stewards at the rostrum and Blackshirts did not engage in crowd-fringe sales. As was now to become a custom the Blackshirt speaker and stewards arrived and departed from the meeting in marching order.

By the Summer, deteriorating crowd behaviour and attitude coincided with a decline in the audience around the Communist Party meeting, usually taking place at the same time, but some 40 yards away. At first it was mistakenly thought that this was due to a genuine change of interest. We were soon disillusioned.

Whereas the Blackshirt meeting audience in those early days had been almost entirely open-minded people with a healthy political curiosity, those listening

1994 'Geordie' appreciates

IT was great to receive "COMRADE" with the 1st instalment of Newcastle B.U.F. history.

Its most interesting, and exciting, to learn about those early Geordie patriots who were brave enough to take up the challenge in the 1930s and try and make a better world for us to live in.

G.S.

Gateshead

to Communist speakers were mostly already brain-washed members, supporters and/or dupes; eagerly lapping-up their regular dose of 'Marxist-dialectic materialism', laced liberally with injections of anti-capitalist 'constipating' propaganda. But now, the C.P. Sunday-meeting speakers decided upon a 'prescription' change: they began encouraging emotively, an emigration to the Black-shirt meeting to give vent to their frustrated spleen!

This new strategy was clearly aimed at disrupting free-speech; discouraging crowd sympathy; creating disorder - the latter readily encouraged by the print-media.

Blackshirts attacked

These tactics started with attacks on the Blackshirts selling literature on the meeting fringe. Developing with orchestrated heckling; timed group-chanting following or during particular policy points being made by BUF speakers, generalised accusations of "dictatorship", shouted loudly by a single individual, followed immediately by a louder acclamation from a group positioned elsewhere in the crowd. This pattern of Red opposition and threatening behaviour intensified with the growing number and strength of 'reds' present. The C.P. meetings ceased. The threat of physical attack was not far away.

The first serious physical attempt to overcome and dislodge the Blackshirt speakers came when a wide concerted push, starting from the rear of the crowd directly facing the speaker was mounted, the aim to overturn the rostrum. The first attempt failed, due to the front ranks of the crowd being of the usual non-committed independent

CORRECTION

In the last issue's first instalment, references to Y.C.A. should read Y.H.A.: London had better education, less larceny but lower morals and more fraud in 1890, not 1980: the exercise to access Tommy Moran's voice should read assess, and the Hammer and Circle flag should of course read Hammer & Sickle!

'man-in-the-street' not given to hooliganism and with a natural apathy to being unceremoniously pushed around. In addition, the Blackshirt stewards had formed a tight ring, with their backs to the crowd and arms linked. The lone policeman moved closer and his towering presence had a restraining effect. (Yes, it worked in those days!)

The meeting carried on, but very noisily. Question-time was a shambles, the 'reds' themselves shouting answers from all sides, or ostensibly asking questions which in effect became no more than critical mini-speeches. After about five minutes of this nonsense the meeting was brought to a close.

When the Blackshirt stewards formed up to march back to the Shakespeare Street Hq., they were followed all the way by a shouting screaming contingent of 'reds' which sucked in a considerable following crowd which temporarily blocked the street. Police reinforcements arrived from the nearby Central Police Station, and after about 15 minutes dispersed the crowd - quite easily. The following morning the local press reported: "Disorder at a Mosley meeting in the City centre...police intervene."

The next BUF meeting at the Bigg Market saw the Blackshirt column arrive to find a Communist Party meeting already in progress at the place where Blackshirt meetings had previously been held. Two police-men present pointed out an alternative location some 40 yards away. The rostrum was set up and the Blackshirt speaker, ringed by Blackshirt stewards commenced speaking. The crowd of about 100 at the C.P. meeting immediately began streaming away to the BUF meeting. It became clear later that the so-called C.P. public meeting was no more than an assembly point and briefing for what was to follow in the next 15 minutes.

The shouts and chants began at once in the vicinity of the Blackshirt stewards. The commotion was drawing in a large crowd than usual and it was noticeable that in addition to the 30 - 40 'reds' near the rostrum, a group numbering 20 or more, were concentrated on the

The fight for Free Speech —

HOW IT BEGAN

Newcastle Fascists have fired the first shots of a campaign in the mining constituencies of Durham and Northumberland.

Their first open-air meeting at Crook, in the heart of Durham County, attracted a large crowd, and the speakers were given a cordial welcome. Unemployment is rampant in these areas and the Ministry of Labour's Commissioner is administering the "Means Test" in such a fashion that real hardship is resulting.

Many copies of *Blackshirt* and of "Fascism in Britain," Sir Oswald Mosley's book, were sold at the meeting.

On Ramsay's Track

Afterwards Mr. W. J. Leaper, who had been the chief speaker, discussed the industrial situation privately with members of the audience, and in response to their requests it was agreed to hold meetings in the Crook market place regularly. Sunderland is being tackled next, and then the campaign is to be moved further south into Seaham Harbour, Ramsay MacDonald's constituency.

Campaigns are to be opened in Newcastle and Gateshead later in the spring. New members, eager to work and to propound Fascism, are being enrolled.

'Blackshirt'
March 18 1933

TYNESIDE FASCISTS

To Carry on Campaign Despite Opposition by "Reds"

Despite the fact that their meeting in Sunderland was broken up last night North-eastern Fascists are not downhearted and they intend to continue their campaign throughout County Durham.

This fact was revealed to an "Evening Chronicle" representative today by one of the two Newcastle men who were addressing the Sunderland meeting when it was broken up.

This official of the Tyneside branch of the British Union of Fascists said he was not in the least dismayed by the organised opposition of the Communists. He stated that the Tyneside Fascists were concentrating their efforts on County Durham, and would be holding meetings in Ryhope, Consett, Jarrow and other centres. They have already held several meetings in Durham mining villages, the Sunderland meeting being the first rowdy one.

"Evening Chronicle" March 17 1933

crowd fringe, and as the crowd thickened, this outer group fell back, maintaining a fringe position.

The first major crowd-push came after about 10 minutes. The Blackshirt cordon held, but with difficulty. The two police constables moved to the edge of the crowd from where the push appeared to originate, but the 'reds' had 'melted-away'. A few minutes later a second crowd-push started from a different point, but this was more of a feint than a serious attack. The two policemen moved to this new fringe point of disturbance, but as the clamour mounted came another crowd push from the side.

BRAVO THE NORTH!

TERRORISM IS ONLY SKIN DEEP

Headline 'Blackshirt' September 1933

IT WAS HIGH TIME the Reds were taught a lesson! Especially in the North on Teeside and Tyneside, reported Blackshirt No. 21 in September 1933. They "had come to think that they could go on indefinitely interrupting our meetings, insulting and molesting our speakers with complete impunity. We heard with gathering anger the disgraceful treatment of our principle speaker in the north-east, Capt. Collier and had followed his plucky fight against overwhelming odds with the utmost of admiration...At last our patience was exhausted, when at a single handed meeting at Stockton-on-Tees some ten days ago the Reds spat in Capt. Collier's face and threatened to lynch him."

A picked contingent of stewards was organised to go to Stockton, to see "if the Reds would repeat their insults when they had more than one undefended man to deal with."

The contingent, drawn from Manchester, Teeside and Tyneside paraded in Middlesbrough and then marched into Stockton where "some sort of a meeting was going on in the Market Square", with a large hostile crowd of imported Communists assembled. The Blackshirts began a rival meeting on the other side of the square. The Reds gathered and amid appalling din it was clear they were determined to prevent any resemblance of free speech, and "the atmosphere became more threatening from moment to moment. The crisis was reached when one of our members was attacked by a man thrusting his fore-fingers into his eyes. The man was knocked down immediately and the stewards moved forward like a machine" against the Red section of the crowd. "Fighting desperately the Reds were swept back forty yards right across the Market Square, and the platform was left isolated in the centre with a small guard. It was indeed a beautiful sight and made one proud to wear a Blackshirt," said an eye-witness.

Back to the platform the

Blackshirts carried out a further demonstration against another section of the crowd, and it was heard said that "they will not forget the Defence Force as long as they live."

After considerable hand to hand fighting the meeting was closed at the urgent request of the few police present and the Blackshirts marched off on good order.

Gathering courage the Reds came on to the attack and it was a matter of fighting through the streets to the railway station, where a firm stand was made before entraining.

"Stockton-on-Tees will not easily forget the Blackshirts, and the whole of the North will remember in future" the entitlement to free speech.

"Never" continued Blackshirt had "they interrupted, much less broken up, any meetings of our political opponents, although our disciplined organisation is such that we could easily do so, but we demand the right to put our case before the public without deliberate organised interruption, insult, threats of violence and actual violence. If our speakers cannot address the public except at personal danger from cowardly attacked from Red hooligans, then the fault will lie with our opponents, if we are compelled to organise an efficient defence force to protect our elementary rights."

There is no Blackshirt terrorism it reported, but "there is a Red Terrorism which must be fought with its own weapons."

The North has shown the way

● The editor's brother was hit in the eye with a brick and knocked unconscious during the fighting. He was cut off from the Defence Force and picked up by a group of Reds and carried to be thrown into the river. Uncommitted bystanders outside a pub intervened, rescued him and returned him to Blackshirts. Although later operated on by an eminent eye specialist, this young man of 20 never again regained the sight of one eye. (Ed)

Scuffling in the vicinity of the rostrum broke out. The speaker was seen to be experiencing difficulty in maintaining his position on the rostrum. The policemen moved in and the scuffling ceased, the 'red' opposi-

tion in that area 'melted-away'. Shouting from the fringe continued unbroken, now with unified chanting of "police protection!", again and again. The speaker

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5 **Geordieland**

attempted to continue but the police intervened and asked that the meeting be closed. The speaker concurred, and the 'reds' cheered!

The Blackshirts formed-up and followed by a substantial crowd, marched out of the Bigg Market, noting as they left that the Communist Party was re-starting its meeting.

On arrival at Branch HQ, the following crowd, virtually devoid of its rabble-rousing elements, showed an encouraging interest in obtaining literature, and there were also a small number of enrolments. The Monday morning local press announced: "Police stop fascist meeting!"

As the first year of the BUF in Geordieland drew to a close there were a few organisational changes. Captain Collier had returned to National Headquarters; Tommy Moran was now the principle speaker; there were two new NHQ full time organisers, a Major and a Captain whose names escape me, probably as their tenure was very brief. They were not public speakers, their duties being what could be described as 'pep-talks' to young Blackshirts attending the evening membership meetings. Their emphasis was it was now time to turn towards the preparations necessary for contesting local and central government elections. After several weeks they were replaced by another Captain full-time organiser who remained rather longer. He gave attention to the older membership, and the obtaining of larger HQ premises in Newcastle. He attempted a couple of outdoor meetings but after Vincent Collier his ability in this field was patently limited.

The scant recollections - so scant I cannot remember their names - is perhaps due to their principle task being to assist in selecting or earmarking suitable local members as possible BUF candidates who in the event of contesting a local 'seat' in an election would be more knowledgeable of the specialised electioneering 'know-how' required, a subject which then I had no experience whatsoever.

As the first anniversary month of October 1933 drew near, the principle talking point among Blackshirts was the forthcoming Rally and



The Blackshirt column marching through Manchester for the BUF's First Anniversary Rally at Belle Vue in October 1933. For many of Newcastle's young Blackshirts they were seeing and hearing their Leader for the first time and returned to Tyneside with a deep feeling of being reborn!

Public Meeting to be held in Belle Vue, Manchester. As large a preparation as possible was being planned to attend from Tyneside. This would be the first time the majority of our young Blackshirts would have to see and hear their Leader.

A Great Crusade

In the event, the occasion became much more than an inspirational experience. They returned to the Tyneside with a deep feeling of having been reborn; of being an integral part of a great Crusade! - a Movement with a Cause!

Towards the end of 1933 the Branch HQ moved into larger premises in Clayton Street in the city centre. Tommy Moran was now the District Officer. His public speaking had matured. Newcastle now had a lively and enthusiastic Blackshirt organisation, together with a membership and public support numbering several hundred. This estimate is based upon a recollection of the regular weekly order for the BUF news-sheet, and weekly street sales.

It was clear that 'left-wing' political opposition was becoming increasingly aggressive; whilst the so-called 'right-wingers' - usually apathetic, seemed to be losing some of their indifference to the BUF. This change in attitudes coincided with the print-media's style of presenting political news from Germany alongside, or in close proximity to, reports of BUF activities; subtly generating a sub-conscious association of one with the other.

The previous 'polite indifference' to the black shirt and coat label fa  ces was replaced with biased accusation. The previous 'enquiring curiosity' became, very often, a 'tentative and secretive' enquiry - "don't let anyone know" etc.

A foothold had been established in the industrial and economic depressed area of the politically disillusioned Tyneside - after just one year of struggle. The penultimate phase of Oswald Mosley in "The Greater Britain" published in 1932:

"Those who march with us will certainly face abuse, misunderstanding, bitter animosity, and possibly the ferocity of struggle and of danger"

was already being given reality. (To be continued;)

In the lives of great nations comes the moment of decision, comes the moment of destiny, and this great nation again and again in the great hours of its fate has swept aside convention, has swept aside the little men of talk and of delay and have decided to follow men and movements who say we go forward to action, to let who dare follow us in this hour. That is the permanence of the mighty mood of Britain, and I say that in the ranks of our Blackshirt Legions march the mighty ghosts of England's past and their strong arms around us and their voices echo down the ages saying forward!

Oswald Mosley: Belle Vue
15 October 1933

3 **Museum Scandal**

that had been suggested was unsuitable for exhibit but "appropriate for a researched publication".

But in 34 pages covering the last war there are just three lines on internment of British citizens. That there were "British Fascists detained under Article 15B of the Defence Regulations as potential security risks and were known as the '18B's'".

The book in fact devoted its Second World War to the internment of 'friendly enemy aliens' and drawn heavily on such present day friendly sources. It is obvious that a serious attempt had not been made to research and collect material on internment of the British of which there is a wealth of material available.

The book gave Connery Chappell's Island of Barbed Wire as a research source which told the story of British Union's Arthur Mason's tunnelled escape from the Island, with photographs to boot. Meaningful research would have found the 1943 It Might Have Happened to You, now a classic used in academic research into the period. Professor A W B Simpson's 1992 scholarly In the Highest Degree Odious: Detention without trial in Wartime Britain, a historical document of the highest standard which will remain the definitive work for

UNWANTED!

Patriotic songs from wartime

SIR - From April 30, through to the end of September 1994, the Manx Museum is to stage an exhibition on internment in the Isle of Man during the two world wars.

During World War Two the island, as is now well known, hosted some 10 internment camps which later on in the war also housed prisoners of war.

As a novel feature of the exhibition it is planned to include a tape-recording of patriotic songs that the internees/prisoners themselves are known or likely to have sung, among themselves on special or other occasions (such as Hitler's birthday, April 20) to keep up their spirits.

Among the internees were Germans, Austrians, Jews (mainly German/Austrian), Italians, and members of the Oswald Mosley's British Union of Fascists (BUF), and among the prisoners of war Germans, Italians, and Japanese.

The songs reflect the German, Italian, Japanese and British Fascist contingent and include: (German) the Horst Wessel Song, Und heute gehort uns Deutschland und morgen die ganze Welt (Today Germany belongs to us, tomorrow the world); Erika; (Italian) the Giovinezza (the Fascist youth song); Sul Ponte di Bassano (On the Bridge of Bassano); Il Ritorno dei Legionari (The Return of the Legionaries); (Japanese) Brilliant Army, Greater Japan and the Japanese Attack Song; (BUF) Britain Awake and Comrades the Voices of the Dead Battalions.

It is anticipated that the songs will be played as background music to lead atmosphere to the occasion.

The C45 cassette tape contains a total of 16 songs and all are from original recordings of the period from the private archive of Dr George Broderick, Ramsey.

If there are any former internees or prisoners of war living in the island or who would have access to this newspaper who would have a knowledge of any songs that were sung in the internment camps in the island, Dr Broderick would be pleased to hear from him/her.

He is contactable at 13 Rhyead Moor Close

Isle of Man Newspaper Group
April 1994

academic research should have been known to the Manx

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The Blackshirt Summer Camps in Sussex

BY GORDON BECKWELL

AMONG the great social occasions of British Union were the Black-shirt Camps held each year until 1937. Thereafter they ceased as all political activity was directed into the Movement's Peace Campaign as the countdown to the European tragedy, the Second World War began, and propaganda for war

intensified.

Thousands of members gathered from all over the country, and all will always remember those brief interludes of comradeship and relaxation in the sun beside the sea when there was still time to hope for the cleaner and better world that did not come.

Whether they stayed for a week, a weekend, or a day

they experienced a foretaste of the community of British Union, in which Mosley sought one day to unite all Britons.

There were camps in Sussex at Pagham in July 1933, the Witterings in 1934 and Pagham in 1935. By 1936 they had grown to a sizeable affair organised by a Camp Commandant: Major Ernie Mathews who later became District Leader for

Chelsea and once wrote in Action: "Have you ever heard the dying crying in the trenches? That is why I fight for British Union."

A highlight of the 1936 Camp at Pryors Farm, Pagham, was the flight of an aircraft along the coastline and over the camp trailing the Circle & Flash and the word "MOSLEY", piloted by N.I.O. Peter Symes. Later, quite a stir was caused in nearby Bognor when many of the campers swelled the ranks of the local branch in a march through the town headed by Mosley and Commander C E Hudson, the District Officer for Bognor.

The 1937 camps were held for the month of August at Selsey in a field bordering the West Beach just beyond the Windmill. On the last weekend The Leader was presented with a new MG Sports Car paid for by members, which he afterwards travelled around Britain on his speaking tours.

On this occasion, the London Drum Corps had a rival in the form of a Scottish Pipers Band led by Sir Archibald Hamilton, Organiser of the local Selsey British Union Group. There was also a camp newspaper, Selsey Bilge, whose irreverent articles seem to have escaped the BU censor!

But all too soon many of those present were to taste camps of a different kind, Britain's concentration camps at York, Huyton, Ascot and the Isle of Man when, in 1940, detention without charge or trial was imposed to silence the mouths of those who the Old System feared most - those who had tried to prevent the war that led to Britain's decline.

As they sat in the cold and darkness of wartime imprisonment, did the thoughts of those far off sun-filled days warm the spirit and brighten their hopes for the future?

Did the veteran Commander Hudson, OBE, RD, RNR, Rtd., who became Camp Leader at Huyton, ponder on his Bognor March with Mosley by his side?

And as his health later deteriorated as a result of his detention, leading to his death, did he scorn the politicians who had awarded him this shabby treatment for years of service to his country?

Flo's photo album

SOME of these photographs were taken by a remarkable young woman Blackshirt, Flo Elliott, whilst attending the Pagham and Selsey Camps, and are reproduced from her snapshot album now in F.O.M. archives.

Flo first heard O.M. on the radio in the early 1930s before the BBC's secretive broadcasting ban and said to herself: "That's the man for me! That's a man worth following!"

And so she did, loyal from her beginning until her death in 1982. She once told me: "He was like one of those dashing Elizabethan courtiers and sea captains who built the Empire. My greatest fear during the war was that they would kill him. I prayed that he would be spared."

Flo was married to Charles Elliott, British Union District Leader for Slough and High Wycombe. Post-war she was the driving force behind Union Movement's branch in Bournemouth and later a Branch Leader in South London where she also campaigned for pensioners' rights.

All who knew her admired her for her cheerfulness, bravery and total commitment to Mosley's cause, despite often difficult personal circumstances.

When her husband was taken away in handcuffs for detention without charge or trial in 1940, their home was attacked by gangs of Reds. She and her baby went to live with another member whose home received similar treatment. When he in turn was detained, she accepted legal responsibility for his four children aged from five to twelve. With no income she had to fight the Public Assistance Board, the Ebon Board of Guardians and Slough Council, ultimately receiving thirty shillings a week to keep the



family of six, which was paid with regular harassment. Slough Council tried to evict her but the local police, who knew her worth, intervened and put a stop to it.

After the war, she was not deterred from selling Action

on the streets, despite she and Rose Prentice, Union Movement's National Women's Organiser, being brutally attacked by Reds whilst selling the paper in Trafalgar Square.

To the memory of Flo Elliott we dedicate this article.

1944-IN MEMORIAM-1994

- BARNUM, David:** British Union; Union Movement speaker.
- BEAULIEU, Commander Carolyn, RN:** Lecturer R.N. College; former MP King's Lynn & Maidstone; British Union; "Action" contributor. August 1980
- BEZANT, Richard:** British Union Northern Organiser & official historian, his 300,000 word *We Marched with Mosley* at Sheffield University; 188 British Political Prisoner; Union Movement; at 87. 22 August 1955
- BRENDING, Guy:** one of 5 Ealing Blackshirt brothers; 188 British Political Prisoner in British concentration camp when brother *Clement* in German concentration camp where he died in 1942. 15 August 1988
- de Laessle, Mrs J. H. R. A. DSO MC:** British Union; 188 British Political Prisoner with Mrs de Laessle; former Member Norwich & King's Lynn Union Movement. 2 August 1965
- DONVILLE, Admiral Sir Barry KBE CB CBE:** former Dir. Naval Intelligence & President RN College; former Anglo-German "Link" in comrade 188 British Political Prisoner with *Lady Donville* & son *Compton*; another son killed in action Crete; author of *From Admiral to Cabin Boy*. August 1948
- DORMAN, Geoffrey:** met Mosley in RFC WW1; British Union; sub-editor *Aeroplane* later *Action* 1937 and columnist as *Blackbird* (Aviation) & *Bluebird* (radio); a British Union District Insp.; RAF WW2. 13 August 1971
- DOORA, Joe:** Hackney British Union; Merchant Navy WW2. 2 August 1968
- EVERE, E.C. 'Bobby':** Upminster; former South London British Union Movement. 26 August 1988
- FIELD, Bill:** early member N/London Union Movement after Army WW2. 17 August 1986
- FOSTER, Ted:** British Union D/Leader Bromley; 188 British Political Prisoner; early organiser of Mosley Book Clubs & Union Movement in S/London. 31 August 1984
- HART, E.D.:** Research Dept. British Union; edited *Action* briefly when editor arrested 1940 until himself detained 188 British Political Prisoner; pioneer of Union Movement. 13 August 1993
- HOGGARTH, Miss Cecelia:** sister of *George*, British Union D/T Eye, Suffolk & BU & UMs *Patricia*. August 1950
- HOLLINGTON, 'Aunt Maud':** East London British Union & Union Movement; at 100. 31 August 1990
- JONES, Jorian:** British Union Agricultural Advisor; Parl. Cand. Horsham & Worthing; 188 British Political Prisoner; author *Bus Spring Comes Again*; Union Movement Agricultural Council. August 1987
- LEWIS, Richard:** British Union D/Officer, Richmond, later D/Leader Twickenham. 20 August 1963
- MADE, Reg:** British Union Asst D/Leader, Epping. 22 August 1990
- MARCH, Randolph:** British Union D/Officer, Bournemouth. August 1988
- MORRE, Harold:** Norwood British Union 'London District Inspector; In Canada. 5 August 1945
- ROSLANDS, Mrs Martha:** at 92; mother of British Union 'Union Movement's *Jack Roslands*. August 1988
- STEER, Eric:** Mitcham British Union speaker; 188 British Political Prisoner; Union Movement. August 1977
- TAYLOR, Fay:** Top Woman Racing Driver; British Union; 188 British Political Prisoner; Un. Movement. 26 August 1954
- WATTS, C.F. 'Charlie':** British Union D/Ldr Westminster St. Georges & Dist. Insp.; Organiser London Cab Trade Group; 188 British Political Prisoner; BU Camp Leader at Ascot Concentration Camp; victim of M15's secret Interrogation Centre Camp 020, Has, Surrey; Union Movement; one-time barrack room comrade of *Lawrence of Arabia*. 2 August 1983
- WILLIAMSON, Henry:** British Union HQ Branch & Union Movement; author *Tacks the Otter, Story of a Norfolk Farm, Sun in the Sands*, 4 volume *Flax of Dreams*, 13 volume *Chronicle of Ancient Sunlight*, etc. etc. 26 August 1971
- BLAY, Thomas C.W.E.:** British Union D/Ldr Spelthorne; D/Insp. 1st London Area; L/Comdr RN WW2. 13 August 1987
- DAY, A.R.:** East London British Union; Union Movement; post-war Dublin dealer rare books. 6 September 1989
- DONOVAN, Heather nee Bond:** Women's D/Ldr Westminster St. Georges British Union; Women's Drum Corps Drum Major; married BU Asst D/Gen *Capt. B.D. E. Donovan* just prior to their both 188 political imprisonment in 1940. September 1974
- ELIOT, Mrs Flo:** Slough British Union; founder Bournemouth Union Movement, later S/London UM. September 1982
- GOODWIN, Phillip:** Union Movement Organiser, Newport, Isle of Wight. September 1982
- HAMMOND, Lt. Col. Sir Lionel Berkeley Holt, KBE:** Kings Own Yorkshire L/12nd Bombay Lancers & 9th Bombay Inf.; Consul Gen. Marshad, Khosra & Pars, Ruhestan & Persian Gables & Islands; British Union Parl. Cand. Chelsea. September 1989
- HEYS, Norman:** Accrington British Union; 188 British Political Prisoner; Union Movement. 11 September 1951
- JOHNSON, J.W.:** British Union Bethnal Green shoemaker; 188 British Political Prisoner; Union M. 8 September 1980
- KITCHEN, Andrew W.:** Glasgow Union Movement; merchant navy; died at sea. September 1956
- ORRIN, Miss Elsie:** London British Union speaker; French, German & music teacher; jailed 2 years in war for criticising Churchill; St. Marylebone Union Movement Organiser. September 1950
- ROSEMAN, Mrs G.:** Bethnal Green British Union & Union Movement. 4 September 1962
- ANDERSON, B. 'Bert':** British Union D/Leader Dorset West, holder Leader's Bronze Distinction; National Farmers Union; 188 British Political Prisoner; UM Organiser Wessex; author *None Need Starve* for UM Agricultural Committee; at 83. September 1952
- BURN, 'Archie':** RFC 1914-18; British Union 1933-40; 188 British Political Prisoner; UM 1948-76. 15 September 1993
- DOES, C.W. 'Bill':** S/Croydon British Union; UM Accounts Insp. 1950 & Sydenham Union Movement. 31 October 1976
- FALLS, Norman:** Bournemouth British Union & Union Movement. 12 October 1984
- GREENFIELD, Richard George:** N/London early Blackshirt; at 79. October 1949
- GRINDY, Mrs Marion:** wife of *Leslie*, British Union D/Ldr & Dist. Insp. Huddersfield. October 1989
- LING, Bob:** British D/Ldr Ealing; 188 British Political Prisoner; Union Movement. 22 October 1969
- MARSH, Miss Muriel:** British Union; early Union Movement active member. 9 October 1975
- PEAR, Ron:** Islington British Union & Union Movement. October 1990
- PEAR, Dr. Peter, Ph.D.:** early Blackshirt; RAF pilot 1939-46; In California. October 1988
- PRATT, George:** British Union District Leader St. Marylebone. 17 October 1989
- REDGRAVE, Ernie:** E/London market trader loyal Mosley supporter; Inns of Court Regt WW2. October 1989
- THOMSON, Alexander Robert:** British Union Dir. of Policy; Ed. "Action" 1939/40 & "Union" 1948/55; 188 British Political Prisoner; soldier, writer, speaker, philosopher; true comrade & British & European patriot. 30 October 1955
- TYLER, Francis 'Frank':** Limehouse British Union & Union Movement; father of UM & FOMs *Peter*. 5 October 1975
- WALLACE, W. Vivian:** Putney British Union & Un. Movement; 188 British Political Prisoner with father, mother, sister. October 1981
- WILSON, Mrs Lillian:** N/E Bethnal Green British Union; wife of 'Archie'. October 1990

Old Comrades



The Commemoration Dinner

Reservations required NOW

been refused, as was his offer to provide copies of the material gratis to members of the public on presentation of a blank cassette. A notice on the latter in the Museum foyer had indeed been torn down by an executive.

Dr Broderick also stated that the exhibition was "extremely one-sided" and that he would have handled the Second War material much differently, not concentrating on one particular grouping of internees. There was a mass of material outside the exhibition's restricted showing that could have given it balance. He believed the Museum was not interested in any other side of the historical event. He also felt that at the bottom of it "was the fear of offending Jewish internee sentiment".

We share his view and maybe the Museum project is a sign of the lack of integrity, dishonesty and moral courage which now permeates all levels of our society.

Despite this, we British still expect total historical integrity from our museums and academic sources of information.

Our objections to Marx Museum's display is nothing to do with political views, then or now.

By its deliberate omission of essential parts of the historical process it has shown a total lack of integrity and brought Marx National Heritage into disrepute.

At best it might be excused as the result of inadequate and unprofessional research.

But not so. It is in fact a classic example of disinformation equable with Josef Stalin's Soviet Union horror, and the worst excesses of British tabloid journalism.

6 Museum Scandal

publication's editor. The book makes frequent use of transcripts of taped interviews made by these 'friendly' enemy aliens held at the Imperial War Museum, whose own high standards would never have entertained the 'political correctness' of the Marx Museum projects. Friends of O.M. are not unknown to that authority and would no doubt have referred to us the Marx editor if she had wished research assistance in our field.

All these further observations have been made to the Museum, the museum director

noting them "with interest". A submission that he issue a statement for publication has not been received as we go to press.

We are not alone in our reaction to this historically flawed museum project. Prior to its opening, Dr. George Broderick, an academic at Mannheim University and an Marx resident associated with the Marx Place-Name Survey, had a letter published in a Marx paper publicising the exhibition. It announced that a recording of "patriotic songs that the internees/prisoners themselves are known or likely to have sung among themselves"

was to provide softly played background music. The recording, from Dr. Broderick's private collection would have covered all the nationalities interned and representing the British, British Union's *Comrades the Voices of the Dead Battalions and Britain Awake*.

It did not happen. Instead a pianist apparently played music from a 'more friendly' source.

Questioned by *Comrade* editor, Dr Broderick stated that he had absolutely nothing to do with the exhibition, its preparation, content or book. His offer of original sound-recordings had

COMRADE

Incorporating ACTION and UNION

Newsletter of Friends of OM.



No. 45

'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'

July 1995

'Illegal immigration into the United Kingdom is, by its very nature, impossible to quantify, but experts believe that as many as one million people living here have no legal right to do so'

— Historian Andrew Roberts, Daily Mail, 11 November 1994

'Mounting public fury' — Sunday Express, March 12 1995

'Alarm is growing in Whitehall about immigration...Nine out of ten applications for political asylum are proving false, yet applicants can claim income support, housing benefit and council tax support totalling £100 a week'

— Daily Mail, May 29 1995

The long road of political cowardice, cover-up and chicanery about

IMMIGRATION

Britain now a racketeers' paradise

By ROBERT ROW

AT LONG LAST Britain faces the full consequences of immigration, with too little done by governments to check it. All the legislation by Tory and Labour governments have been riddled with loopholes through which the inrush poured. Now the ultimate problem is with us, illegal immigration, which is out of hand. Let it be remembered that it was Mosley and his Union Movement that first warned against the problem and gave the answer: **STOP** all further immigration. **REPATRIATE** the immigrants.

Let us recall some history. The problem started in 1943 when a Labour government moved through its British Nationality Act which gave every citizen of the Commonwealth the same nationality rights as the British. It also gave them every right to enter and settle in the United Kingdom. There were then about 800 million living in Commonwealth lands. If they had all come to Britain to claim their rights this island would have sunk below the waves under the weight of humanity.

Fortunately it did not happen but it started the immigrant rush from the West Indies. This was speeded up in 1951 when the same Labour government

bought over 1,000,000 tons of sugar from Cuba in what was known as the "Black Pact". The British market

was glutted with sugar, our traditional West Indian suppliers were crowded out, and tens of thousands of West Indians came to Britain for jobs as mass unemployment spread in their homelands. No matter that Labour then lost the 1951 General Election to the Tories under Churchill. The new government made no changes whatever, and immigration rose to a flood.

Mosley's challenge

In 1953 Mosley threw down the challenge to the Tories. STOP immigration, START repatriating the immigrants by creating jobs for them at home by guaranteeing West Indian suppliers top priority in the British sugar market. He followed this up in 1959 by standing for Parliament in North Kensington in the General Election. He did not succeed but the size of his vote shook the political establishment. **MacMillan** was now Prime Minister and



Williamson

MI5 'killed Lawrence of Arabia'

LAWRENCE of Arabia

Daily Express July 3



Lawrence

THE claim that First World War desert hero **LAWRENCE of Arabia** was assassinated in May 1935 by MI5 because of his 'Fascist sympathies' has been published by the Daily Express.

Lawrence died when his 1,000cc Brough Superior motorcycle crashed near his home at Bovington, Dorset after he sent a telegram to his friend, writer **Henry Williamson** arranging to meet him the following day. Author of the now celebrated **Tarka the Otter**, 'HW' was a dedicated supporter of **Sir Oswald Mosley**.

Turn to Page 2

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

ATTIKEN, Sgt/L. Lionel: RAF 59 Sq: shot down, bombing German convoy off Dunkirk: **RAF "I" Sqnd:** OIC Black House NW, 1935: brother of **Andrew, RAF,** killed RAF 1937, A of **Marjorie, RAF,** **Womersley** DO & son of **Commander Attkin** RN & **RAF:** lies in **Dunkirk Town Cemetery.** 7 July 1941

MAIS, Sgt John Basil: RE:25: W/ Leeds British Union: candidate local Election: despatch rider killed in accident **Hemswell** RAF Station after Dunkirk evacuation: lies in **St Chad Churchyard, Harpswell, Lincs.** 26 July 1940

THOMSON, Sgt William Newby: 27:7 Field Dressing Station **RAF:** Liverpool British Union: skilled in action Normandy: lies in **Banville War Cemetery.** 19 July 1944

WALSH, Sgt Michael 'Micky': RAF VR: 156 Sqdn: **Limehouse British Union:** 23: missing Bremen operation: Remembered **Rannwede Air Force Memorial** 27 July 1942

by 1962 he carried through the first of the 'immigration' acts.

It was too little and too late.

Nothing short of Mosley's radical action would be effective now, but the Tories lost the 1965 General Election to Labour and under Prime Minister **Harold Wilson** immigration mounted higher. It became such a burning question that **Enoch Powell** abandoned the flabby Tory attitude to make his speech on "the River Tiber foaming with much blood". Whereupon Tory leader **Edward Heath** sacked him from his front bench team. **Powell**, who was vulnerable because when he was **MacMillan's** Health Secretary had recruited thousands of Black nurses from the West

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LAWRENCE — 'accident' witness shot himself

continued from page 1

The claims are made by Dorset historian Rodney Legg who is writing a book on the subject, and he suggests that new evidence shows that vital clues linking the 'accident' were suppressed, and that a mysterious black car reported to have been seen, was in fact an M15 vehicle and it knocked Lawrence off his bike.

The verdict at the inquest held at Bovington Military Hospital, was accidental death after concluding that Lawrence was speeding when he collided with two boys in bicycles.

According to Mr Legg, the jury were never told that flakes of black paint had been found on the petrol tank and handlebars of the motorcycle after the crash. This has been revealed in a letter to Lawrence scholar Colin Graham, a colleague of Rodney Legg, from Conny Brough, widow of the motorcycle's designer. She said her husband had found the black paint during his after crash examination, and was pressurised not to mention this at the inquest. Brough was not prepared to commit perjury, so he refused to give evidence.

It is claimed the investigation was not led by local police, but by officials from London who threw a security net around Bovington.

"Even the parents of one of the boys were not allowed to see him for three days after the accident... We can only imagine what the boys were being told during that time" said the "Express" quoting Mr Legg.

One inquest witness, Private Catchpole from Bovington Camp, reported seeing a black car at the scene. It was from the army camp that Lawrence, who once served there in the Tank Corps, was riding to his nearby cottage, Church Hill. He had gone there to send off his telegram to Henry Williamson.

Private Catchpole was "apparently so unnerved by his experiences surrounding the inquest that he

HENRY WILLIAMSON (Telegram: 13 May 1935)
Lunch Tuesday wet fine cottage one mile north
Bovington Camp SHAW



Lawrence astride his Brough Superior

later shot himself!"

"You cannot consider the investigation into Lawrence's crash as an ordinary piece of policing... Its controllers were the nation's political policemen and what was revealed, apart from Private Catchpools evidence, was simply what the authorities wished to be known", quoting Mr Legg.

It had been rumoured that at the time of his death, Lawrence was heading a review panel considering the reconstruction of the intelligence services, a story that the historian confirms, the evidence of which is "held in secrecy at the Rhodes House Library, Oxford. "But", says Mr Legg, "he was also under observation by M15, one of the organisations he was due to head, as he became drawn to the cause of the Fascists" but after his death all plans to centralise Britain's counter-intelligence agencies were dropped.

'Not an accident' - 1930s rumour

There was strong speculation throughout the late 1930s, that the official story of the 'accident' was a government cover-up, and given Lawrence's background, involved in the shady world of intelligence. After 60 years the evidence which Mr Legg now provides would seem to confirm this, and that Britain's World War hero was in fact assassinated. But by M15?

M15 in 1935 only had a handful of active operatives. However, one of

these was unorthodox Maxwell Knight who from what is now known would seem capable of 'arranging' the exercise.

During the last war, homosexual Maxwell Knight, 'the Man who was M' - ran his M15 section as his own personal 'fiefdom' and employed some very dubious characters and agent-provocateurs in what was in fact a 'dirty tricks brigade'. He also maintained contact with William Joyce whom he had known when both were in Rotha Lintern Orman's British Fascists in the 1920s. He is also suspected in August 1939 of tipping off Joyce that the original Defence Regulation 18B was to be implemented and his arrest was imminent, precipitating Joyce's flight to Germany.

He was also the instigator of some questionable actions leading to the arrest of USA Embassy cypher clerk Tyler Kent, later imprisoned for treason, a case which a number of questions unanswered. His credibility was finally undermined when the government were forced to release the imprisoned ex-Labour Party and Peace campaigner Ben Green after Knight's agent-provocateur Harald Kurtz was proved to have passed on false information about him.

We also now know that come the war and after, the British Security Services were riddled with so-called anti-fascists such as Anthony Blunt, Burgess, MacLean to name a few, who in reality dedicate Soviet 'moles' peddling Britain's secrets to the Kremlin. Had the rot already started in 1935?

But there were others who would have wished to see the removal of Lawrence as a head of intelligence. In 1935 the Palestine Arabs were beginning to revolt against the increased entry of European Jews, many of them incidentally with the co-operation of Nazi Germany who for their own racial reasons were in favour of a

Jewish Palestine. Simultaneously, powerful Zionist pressures in Britain and from USA for a Jewish homeland were increasing. With Lawrence, friend of the Arabs, holding a power base in British government be thought to have tipped the scales?

Rodney Legg appears to believe that Henry Williamson was arranging for Lawrence to meet Hitler, "a meeting that M15 could not sanction." This, as distinct from the author's researched evidence, seems to be speculation arising from HW's admiration for the ex-front line soldier Adolf Hitler of the 1930s, for what he had then done for the German people, a view for which Williamson has been ostracised by the political establishment even beyond his death.

It is indeed doubtful that in 1935 he could have arranged this meeting. It was not until August 1939 that Henry Williamson felt himself creditable enough to feel he could meet Hitler and try and persuade him, as one ex-front line soldier to another, and ask him not to march against Poland, an idea from which he was dissuaded by Mosley with his "I am afraid its too late to try and see Hitler. The curtain is down."

What Henry Williamson was to meet Lawrence about at the meeting which did take place was to seek his approval for him to speak on the same platform as Mosley at the Albert Hall, to try and halt what he saw as the drift to another tragic war with Germany, an idea which he yet to put to Mosley.

Was Lawrence of Arabia a potential recruit for Mosley? Henry Williamson believed so, and the timing, Lawrence having just retired from the RAF appropriate. Another close friend of both, soldier-poet and writer Robert Graves would appear to believe this to be a possibility having been quoted that Lawrence "would have found the temptation to strong political action irresistible".

We await Mr Legg's book with interest.

How close was Lawrence to the BUF?

Judge from his obituary, first used
in *The Blackshirt*, May 24 1935

T. E. LAWRENCE: IN MEMORIAM

By "LUCIFER"

Lawrence has been compared to Drake and Raleigh. The comparison is inappropriate. It fails to focus the complex of his character and misses altogether the symbolic content of his life. Certainly his war achievement was the greatest individual adventure since Clive's. His actions have already become a saga for the youth of Britain.

Military writers, competent to form an opinion, regard him as a genius of the art of war worthy to rank among the great captains of history. Before he was thirty he had won a very special place among the heroes of England. It happened also that this soldier, this paladin of fabulous adventures, was a profound scholar who held the respect of the most learned men of his generation.

And he was a master of English prose to a degree which is very rare in scholars. His record of the Arab revolt—"The Seven Pillars of Wisdom"—is one of the finest works in the English language—a monument of rugged and surpassing beauty.



Lawrence of Arabia.

No Englishman since Raleigh has combined with such superb facility the qualities of action and reflection. But Lawrence towered above the volatile Elizabethan. Lawrence lived his thoughts.

Raleigh, who was not shallow, turned his back on the truths he saw with the gallant gesture of the swashbuckler. The eyes of Lawrence penetrated the outer ranges of existence. "The Seven Pillars" is the testament of a tortured spirit.

Lawrence rises up as the Promethean type of the modern world. He is the man of action exploring the deserts of the ultimate void. The man of action who does not reflect goes down to his grave with a grunt. The philosopher, incapable of expressing thought in action, passively accepts what he sees of the future. Lawrence, with his desperate energy, faced his thoughts as he had faced battle. And he was original enough and courageous enough to live out his thoughts.

The romantic dreamer, the scholar, the legendary hero of the desert tribes, threw himself into the modern world and lived through it with a zest. It was appropriate that this symbolic man should meet his death in a motor-cycle accident. In his own words, he looked on the conquest of the air as "the one big job left for this generation to do." Aircraftman Shaw became a unit in the Royal Air Force, and made his mark in the most technical of modern services.

The world, of course, could not and would not understand him. Rumours, and then gibes and sneers, accumulated round his name. It is pleasing to the little men to belittle everything to that littleness which they themselves possess. Lawrence was a man who might easily have mastered the material world. Honours and position were his for the asking.

The splendours of Marlborough, the wealth of Clive, might in the passing years have fallen to "the little donnish man" in his Dorsetshire cottage. But here Lawrence achieved his ultimate greatness—the complete repudiation of materialism. No wonder they began to sneer when they found that they could neither exploit nor

fawn upon him. For without making a speech or writing a word, the insignificant man on the motor-bike had challenged all the values of the modern world. Of his early travels in the East he said, "My poverty let me learn the masses from whom the wealthy traveller was cut off by his money and attendants." He lived always so as a unit of "the mass"—poor and unassuming and friendly—and he earned the rare luxury of understanding.

No man has ever led a life more full. For he explored the past, conquered the present, and confronted the future—seeking in the Air Force the answer to the disturbing doubts of the philosophic schools. Future generations will probably regard Lawrence's last years as his most significant. But it was his fame as a soldier and his distinction as a scholar which gave to his challenge its deadly effectiveness, and transmuted it into that really religious inspiration which is the meaning of this man of action who expressed with such superb artistry the results of his reflection.

Henry Williamson Centenary

IT WAS TIMELY that historian Rodney Legg's LAWRENCE story was published the day after Radio 3's Sunday Feature broadcast "The Trials of Henry Williamson, the young and old Henry played by Tim Pigott-Smith and Michael Goff, and following a 2-page feature on Henry by Anne de Courcy in the Daily Mail Weekend.

She describes Henry's "Tarka the Otter" as "one of the best loved books of all time", and quotes Order of Merit authors Thomas Hardy and John Galsworthy - that Henry had "written more classics than anybody in England at this time".

But no order of Merit, with which most writers of quality have been honoured, for Henry Williamson. It was thought by many of his contemporaries that by his 80th birthday, the year before he was to die, the Establishment's vengeance for his life-long support for Mosley, of whom he said "when he is dead. And I hope I will be dead, too", and for his one-time admiration of Hitler, would have expired after some sixty years, and his work recognised.

But in this petty England of the late 20th century it could not be. According to Anne de Courcy, writer Gerald Durrell put forward Henry's name to Prime Minister Harold Wilson who "flatly turned it down".

But Henry Williamson needed not an official honour to preserve the memory of his life's work. In this his Centenary Year, his merit as a writer and as a man is being recognised by a growing number of those who search for something more in life than the soul-destroying materialism of today.

Unknown Blackshirt lost at sea

IN HIS "Today Newspaper" column, JOE HAINES said that his second cousin was a Blackshirt who joined the Navy when war broke out, and soon became a fatal casualty. Is he on British Union's Roll of Honour? E.W. He certainly should be.

LETTERS

We asked Mr Haines, one-time Press Secretary to Harold Wilson to help. He declined as he does not believe that the cousin's family "would wish his name to be included in your list of war dead".

So why say it in the first place? His newspaper is not noted for

being fussy on privacy, and if he could find a Mosley man who had died ignobly, and could be used to condemn British Union, even after 50-odd years, I wager he would not be so reluctant.

His cousin will go on the Roll of Honour. Like "The Unknown Soldier", just "The Unknown Blackshirt". Ed.

BUF GEORDIELAND (3) postponed to next issue

IMMIGRATION: Rhetoric, rackets, and Reality

continued from Page 1

Indies for his N.H.S. hospitals, then contented himself with warning that immigration numbers must inevitably increase by "natural methods". He did not demand repatriation and was vague about closing the door.

Immigration took another upward surge when Labour lost the 1970 General Election and Heath became Prime Minister. In 1971 Ida Amin seized power in Uganda and confiscated Asian businesses and shops and Asians started to flee. At first the Indian government offered them shelter but up got pious new Home Secretary Robert Carr saying that Britain had the solemn "duty" to take them in. Another Tory Minister Peter Walker called on every church in the land to shelter an Asian family from Uganda. Very abruptly the exodus from Uganda changed course towards British shores where they had immediate access to the welfare state. Nothing like this for them in India!

In its turn the Heath government was swept away due to the miner's strike, Labour winning the 1974 General Election and Harold Wilson was in for a second innings. He resigned in 1976 and was succeeded by James Callaghan, but nothing changed except the immigration inflow. A year later the Tories dumped Heath as leader and Mrs Thatcher was launched on her sensational rise assisted by enormous media publicity. She let it be known she would bring great changes, and when she said that many people were afraid of being "swamped by immigration" the gullible ones assumed she would at last do something about it, a masterly use of the old confidence trick. Thus in the 1979 General Election she got the considerable anti-immigrant vote, but also much of the immigrant vote as well - by barnstorming through the now considerable Asian areas in a bright blue sari and much use of Hindustani slogans.

In September last in the Daily Mail, Mr Peter Tomkins, who had served 40 years in the Immigration Service, the last ten as its head, stated "The figures are being massaged,

'When Prime Minister Mrs Thatcher said in 1979 that many people were afraid of being "Swamped by immigration"'

If she'd been White?

THE recent case of Mrs Joy Gardner, who died resisting efforts to deport her, showed again that the executive is not serious about immigration. For six years it did little about deporting her although she had no legal right to live here.

It all began in 1987 when she came from Jamaica as a visitor for six months, and when due to return disappeared. It appeared she made a marriage of convenience which soon fell apart and thus no right to stay in Britain. In Britain.

The authorities however, caught up with her in October 1990 and their snail-like procedure to deport her began. She was told to leave Britain but took no notice, as she did when interviewed by immigration officers two months later. In April 1991 she applied to have her case reviewed. This was rejected but she still made

no attempt to go home. It was not until October 1991 that she was served with an official "intention to deport".

Her appeal against this notice was rejected in February 1992. By now, the whole business of returning her to Jamaica was being conducted like an elaborate dance which had to go the full distance.

In the summer of 1992 the authorities booked her on a one-way flight home, for which, true to form, she did not turn up, and the bumbling went on. It was not until July 1993 - six years since she arrived, that the police arrived at her flat to deport her. A violent struggle took place and she collapsed, dying in hospital four days later.

No wonder there is now a huge population of illegal immigrants when this is how just one case was handled.

Black Labour MP Bernie Grant and his 'hard left' friends turned Mrs Gardner into a political crusade. This was too great a strain for Police Commissioner Condon. He panicked, suspended the

police officers involved, stopped further deportations and issued 'sadness and regret' statements non-stop.

Far worse, he washed his hands of the case, and three police officers for well over a year faced manslaughter charges. Once they would have had the whole Metropolitan Police behind them but not today under Commissioner Condon. They had orders to deport a violent woman, but as soon as it went wrong they were on their own.

It seems that London police officers, trying to uphold the law in today's violent society, can no longer rely on the backing of their own Commissioner when things go accidentally wrong, particularly if 'ethnic minorities' are involved.

Indeed, it is doubtful that the officers would have been charged if Mrs Gardner had been white.

● The Commissioner has now discovered the facts of life and announced that black youths are largely responsible for mugging, otherwise robbery with violence.

with the real people settling in this country from overseas spectacularly higher than the Home Office would have us believe. My firm belief is that in recent years, at the conservative estimate, they have been running at more than double the official level.

Ministers smugly cite in the 1980 total of around 70,000 as an example have brought the tally down to last year's 55,500. My own estimates tell a different story and are capable of standing up to any scrutiny. They show that more than 58,000 people should be added to that 1993 total of 55,500. These 58,000 people, undisclosed and unaccounted for, comprise two categories.

First, said Tomkins, there were about 40,000 illegal immigrants who were not apprehended. Second were the asylum seekers. In 1993, 22,400 applied for asylum in Britain but only 15 per cent were given leave to stay - 18,000 asylum seekers in Britain in that year who should not be here "and should be removed". But

like the illegal immigrants they simply disappeared "melting into some local community among their fellow-countrymen".

Thus if 40,000 illegals plus 118,000 asylum-seekers who should not be here, are added to the 55,000 accepted immigrants, plus their dependents, in just that one year, this added up tells a very different picture from the Tory story that immigration is no longer a problem. Tomkins did not say how long this had gone on, beyond "recent years". I would say longer than that. Mrs Thatcher won her 1979 election with some bare-faced trickery and her whole immigration policy since had been one great bag of tricks.

On the other bag of tricks, illegal immigration, Peter Tomkins drew on his long experience to outline its rackets: "Some avoid immigration controls completely by being hidden in container lorries. Bringing them in is big business. Others go through immigration controls at airports or seaports, but

produce false passports or genuine passports with phoney visas. There are bogus marriage rackets. A person who has been granted residence status can, for example, marry somebody else, bigamously, charging money each time. The Immigration Service has exposed numerous such scams, but the Home Office seems unable or unwilling to take firm action".

Little wonder the Home Office is backward when its officials are responsible for the faked immigration figures.

Yet not a word from our 'Euro-sceptics' with their pseudo-patriotism, everlasting bleating about the loss of 'British Sovereignty' if the British people for need of survival extend their patriotism and join with those of like kind in a true Union of Europe.

It is not in Europe that the British will lose their identity, lose that spark and genius that once led them to build the greatest empire the world had seen, but in our own homeland and it is happening NOW!

Time for 'the kissing has to stop'

'The gullible ones assumed she would at least do something about it, a masterly use of the old confidence trick'

Welfare State Fixer

Home Secretary Howard announced in May that "the government is to call on a wide network of public officials in its efforts to hunt down illegal immigrants".

Even this mild change provoked outrage among 'civil liberties' groups. It would "undermine race relations"! Claude Moraes of the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants protested, according to the Times, that "there are many schools, particularly in the East End of London, where teachers know a child's parents are illegal immigrants, but they are teaching them anyway". If he is correct, these 'many' teachers are breaking the law by keeping quiet. It is time to put the welfare of Britain before the welfare of immigrants.

How many people 'keep quiet', for instance, about Paul Singh (real name Pritpal Singh Sarna). According to the Times, for five years this Oriental fixer handled 1,000 bogus claims for political asylum in Britain and used prostitutes for 650 'marriage ceremonies' to let his clients stay in this country. He charged £760 each time, making £1,250,000 from

his rackets, much of it now hidden in American bank accounts.

Such is British justice today that he got only 18 months. He has been deported once after a conviction for attempted deception. When he is deported again, after the usual generous remission, he will no doubt be back in Britain for a third lucrative criminal career in this immigrant-friendly country where nobody reports such scoundrels because that's bad for 'race relations'.

Welfare State Warriors

Britain has been receiving the attention of militant Asians according to the Sunday Telegraph who reported in March that a Mr Rehman Farooki was recruiting for a war-like Muslim organisation, the "Soldiers of Islam". They are widely blamed for a massacre of Muslims of a different branch of their faith recently in Karachi.

What have these murderous events, a thousand miles away from the Straits of Dover, got to do with Britain? Why then was Farooki allowed in to try

and involve this country in his Eastern ambitions?

The Sunday Telegraph said he stormed around Britain, speaking "sometimes three times a night to packed halls in London, Manchester, Birmingham and Glasgow"...He has a very strong hold in Britain; there are branches in every city" said his spokesman, and that he had gained 40,000 recruits.

His 40,000 recruits let it be said, were all Asian-immigrants who originally came to Britain professing peace, bowing humbly as they passed through immigration controls. But when the fiery Farooki appeared on the scene they flocked to join his army!

Many a Labour leader, supporting immigration to a man, believed that as soon as immigrants stepped on British soil they immediately turned into Englishmen. Farooki has certainly driven a coach and horses through that nonsense. Too many Asians in this country give their first loyalty to religious leaders thousands of miles from our shores, and as we know, their other loyalty is to our welfare state and its hand-outs.

Above all they try to involve Britain in their quarrels. Before the war, Mosley's British

Union said 'Mind Britain's Business' - "Keep out of foreign quarrels".

Britain's business today is Europe, not Asia. Keeping out of foreign quarrels means keeping men like Farooki out of Britain. This includes telling his followers that their proper place as "Soldiers of Islam" is at home in Asia.

Speed them on their way.

Welfare State Passport factory

"A NEW wave of illegal immigrants is claiming millions in benefits after slipping into Britain on forged European identity documents which cost as little as £40" reported the Daily Mail in May. For the outlay of £40 each gets access to thousands in welfare state hand-outs.

The Mail continued "North Africans are entering through a sophisticated network of underground rackets. The problem centres on Algerians who are smuggled into Britain with high quality forged documents...In one operation in London's East End, police discovered a 'passport factory' run by an Algerian who produced French identity cards on computers. More than 1,000 cards were seized".

It continued "Significantly, say police, more than 60 per cent of Algerians claiming asylum do so only when arrested for crimes. Some 75 per cent are found to be travelling on forged EU documents using a false European identity"...Home Office reports identify two London colleges they suspect of involvement in the racket. One, described as a virtual 'visa factory', is owned by a Libyan who was himself an immigration offender and has a criminal record for deception. An East London Mosque is also suspected of involvement in the racket, together with a community association".

When they are caught these crooks claim their lives are "in peril", and demand political asylum.

To cap it all, says the Mail, the Immigration Service has a problem because "the Crown Prosecution Service does not press ahead with charges in many cases...the CPS is increasingly reluctant to prosecute offenders with illegal entry".

In other words, Britain is a racketeers paradise. They laugh at officialdom, which extends from a clapped-out government to prosecutors who fail to do their duty. The rackets increase and the racketeers flourish.

'The real problem is the estimated million 'melted' or smuggled into our inner cities'

"DESPERATE" to cut the annual £90 billion welfare costs, Social Security Secretary Peter Lilley apparently feels 'enough is enough' and is looking at how the Dutch are dealing with their immigration problem, reports the Daily Mail.

In the unlikely event that we copy the regime, the Immigration Service would take over several redundant Army bases to accommodate all asylum-seekers under reasonable but somewhat spartan conditions, until their cases are dealt with. Thus they would not tap the welfare services for £100 weekly. Nor could they play the old game of 'melting' into our inner cities among their co-

racials. If they knew this regime awaited them, for sure considerably fewer would arrive.

Another with ideas on what should be done is the 'Mail' columnist and TV's presenter of "Live and Uncut", Richard Littlejohn who suggests a strict quota of, at most, 1,000 political asylum applicants be admitted each year. "British citizens who wish to participate in arranged marriages will be told that they will be expected to live in their spouses country or origin until normal immigration procedures have been exhausted" he says.

"Immigrants will be allowed to settle in Britain only if they have special skills which will

benefit the country; have a job arranged; are prepared to buy a house; have liquid assets of at least £100,000; take out comprehensive private medical insurance; speak English; and are prepared to sign an undertaking not to claim state benefits until they have paid tax in this country for a minimum of ten years..."

But all this is too little and too late. The real problem is the estimated million 'melted' or smuggled into our inner cities. Neither this government or the Labour Party have plans for dealing with them. All the rest is window dressing. There is a general election drawing near.

Arrogant, Smug — and Invariably Wrong!

The Abysmal record of Political Economists

IN HIS FIRST "Latter-Day Pamphlet" entitled "The Present Time" THOMAS CARLISLE referred to "Respectable Professors of the Dismal Science". This description stuck, and economics has been called the Dismal Science ever since.

by PETER MARCY

Is this description justified? The term "Economist" was invented by Francis Quesnay, court physician to King Louis XV of France, who in 1758 published a book entitled *Tableau Economique* and in doing so founded the science of Political Economy. When a few years later Adam Smith began work on *The Wealth of Nations* he devoted much space to Quesnay's theories. Quesnay's followers, known as the Physiocrats, believed that the land is the source of all wealth and agriculture and mining the only industries that produce wealth. (Henry George's single tax proposals for land nationalisation also derive from Quesnay.)

Another Frenchman, Jean Baptiste Say, professor of Political Economy at the College de France, claimed that the production of goods resulted in a level of demand that was ALWAYS sufficient to purchase the total supply. Overproduction of goods was quite impossible. There would NEVER be a shortage of demand.

For 130 years this patently absurd theory was upheld by economists (and bankers) until the Great Depression demonstrated its fallaciousness and "one of their own" - Maynard Keynes - repudiated it.

Say was Adam Smith's translator, and while he was propagating Smith's views on Free Trade in France, Thomas Robert Malthus was arguing in England that population is limited by the means of subsistence: that it increases geometrically if the means of subsistence allows such increase; while the food supply only increases arithmetically. Only starvation, disease and war kept the population in check.

Malthus' friend David Ricardo, who had made an immense fortune gambling on the Stock Exchange, regarded wages as "that price which is necessary to enable the

labourers, one with another, to subsist and to perpetuate their race, without either increase or diminution." This became known as the 'Iron Law of Wages.' Real wages, according to Ricardo, never change. (Unlike some of his Twentieth Century disciples, Ricardo did not believe that capital should flow freely between countries.)

'Iron Law of Wages' a 'theft from the poor'

It is hardly surprising that Ricardo's views aroused resentment and that his Iron Law was seen as theft from the poor. But the ideas of Smith, Malthus and Ricardo suited very well the economic interests of the powerful, with the result that British Governments - Whig, Tory, Liberal or Conservative - allowed complete freedom to businessmen and industrialists to fix wages and working conditions without any Governmental controls. "Safety nets" formerly provided by guilds, parishes and the Church were abandoned and "each for himself" became the prevailing philosophy.

Such laissez-faire ideas persisted in Britain right up until the outbreak of war in 1914. Until then, an employer's only obligation was to pay wages and much work was casual. Even so, unemployment generally stood at 10% of the work force. Food rationing - introduced in December 1916 - provided a better diet than many Britons had enjoyed in peacetime!

In a London slum in the 1850s lived a man who was so poor that he was frequently unable to leave his tenement because his only pair of boots was at the pawnbrokers. Karl Marx did not believe that the Market Economy was self-correcting or that Government intervention was undesirable and unnecessary. The British Government's own reports on working conditions in factories and mines proved the contrary point. For Marx the only answer was a

class war in which the whole capitalist system would be destroyed. True, the capitalist system had, in a mere 100 years, "created more massive and more colossal productive forces than have all preceding generations together" - but these forces were not being used effectively.

Human misery of

'Scientific Socialism'

Alas! The attempts to establish "Scientific Socialism" in the 20th Century have resulted in greater human misery than ever existed in the "dark, satanic mills" of Victorian Britain.

What then is the record of political economists, whether of the Right or Left? Economists of the Right believe that world Free Trade is wholly desirable - yet the abolition of trade barriers in the European Community had produced not prosperity but recession. These are the people who in 1925 were in unanimous agreement that Britain must return to the Gold Standard at pre-1914 parity (\$4.87 to the £) - a measure which made the pound far too expensive. To make exports competitive prices and wages had to be cut, resulting in widespread misery, throughout the Nineteen Twenties. Only rearmament brought economic recovery in the late 1930s.

Whether employed by banks and other financial institutions or by Government Departments economists consistently fail to provide accurate analyses of current events or accurate forecasts of future developments. Unlike physics or chemistry economics is not an exact science; the "mathematical models" produced by economists are intended to suggest that it is.

Experts? - 'they get it wrong all the time'

What is one to think of "experts" who get it wrong all the time? Orthodox economists supported the abolition of exchange controls with the result that the West's industries have

WE'RE BACK!

WE APOLOGIZE for the very late COMRADE 45 caused by illness of editor, who now for the record, reports briefly on FOM functions held.

Guests of Honour at the Commemoration Dinner were six British Union wartime political prisoners, Cyril Plaskett, Bob Wilkinson, Ronald Creasy, Charlie Booth, Luigi Albertini and Ernst Keller (who we give our deepest sympathy on recent death of his wife, Eve). Unexpected guest was Dr Ed Fields, a National Officer of the America First Party and editor of Truth at Last who gave a rousing speech on Oswald Mosley. Absent was Lady Mosley who was recovering from an operation. By February she was well again and attended a small gathering of old comrades when passing through London.

A 2-minute silence in remembrance of our war dead was held at the May Buffet. This year's COMMEMORATION DINNER November 18, Tickets £14. Early reservations acceptable.

been transferred to the East on a scale that has alarmed even great capitalists like Sir James Goldsmith.

Economists failed to appreciate the extent to which the oil price increases of 1973 would have an effect on inflation. Twenty years later they failed to predict the severe Japanese recession or the crisis in the Exchange Rate Mechanism.

Economists - who are supposed to chart future developments - are still unaware of the problems that will be caused by the bureaucratic executives of great international corporations who are interested only in strengthening their own powers and positions. They should know - for Adam Smith, their Free Market hero, warned that such monopolists would not be subject to any kind of effective control by national Governments.

LAST POST

IT IS ALWAYS with a sense of tragic loss that the Editor has to report the deaths of that fast diminishing number of those with whom was shared the years the years of the great adventure - those 1930s years when all things were possible, and with Mosley at our head we marched, we fought, and we laughed in the exhilaration of our challenge as we raced in pursuit of the Greater Britain of our dreams.

True and loyal to the end were two such men, now reunited in spirit with the long line of British Union comrades that have passed on. For we few who remain, I raise my hand in the old salute.

'Hail Mosley!'

Leslie Grundy



HE would not have wished it different. To have died in the Yorkshire town where he was born and bred. **LESLIE GRUNDY**, 88, British Union District Leader and Inspector for Huddersfield.

His father had been a Church evangelist who travelled by Church Army horse-drawn vehicle to assist vicars in various diocese. He married his mother when she joined him in his work, playing the harmonium at prayer meetings. They came to Huddersfield just before Leslie was born, his father being appointed the town's first Probation Officer.

In his unpublished memoirs Don't let your conscience be your guide, he relates that he "was born at a time in our history when Britain was materially great, and one could sing Rule Britannia with truth and pride". We were "the wealthiest and most influential power in the world, with an Empire which covered a quarter of the world's surface, with a vast wealth of materials not yet developed". In those early days he lived at The Labour Home, a 40 roomed building with kitchen, dining, reading, billiard and bathrooms with ample hot water. There was also adjacent workshops and storage sheds. The accommodation was "far superior" to the local standards of the day. The 'Home', of which his father had become superintendant, had been erected and paid for out of Police Court Mission funds and sponsored by "public spirited men in the area". Its purpose was to "help men down on their luck, first offenders, in co-operation with the probation system,

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Pat Dunegan

AN 18 yr old unemployed cabinet maker, **PAT DUNEGAN** joined Shoreditch branch of British Union 1936 after listening for two years to Blackshirt street speakers and concluding that their policies "offered what seemed like a clearly stated solution to the enormous problems of unemployment and grinding poverty. If the effort that had gone into the war was applied in peace, the problems would soon disappear" he said writing in the "Mosley's Blackshirts" book in 1986.

In 1936 he was living with his parents and brother "in two rooms at the top of a three-story tenement in a poor neighbourhood". His father strongly supported him in his activities although he always been a strong supporter of the Labour Party, but had "an admiration for Mosley".

From the start, he was a very active member, like so many of the young East London lads who joined during that period of British Union's fast development into a mass movement in the East End. The 'activity' for Pat included being "slashed with a razor...and suffered several vicious physical assaults".

Transferring to Islington branch in 1939, he continued activity after the start of the war, in fulfillment of Mosley's appeal to continue all efforts to secure "Peace with Honour". In January 1940 he joined the Royal Engineers and became a machine-gunner, and four months later was fighting the Wehrmacht in the desperate rearguard action in Belgium and France.

(In his memory, we publish his moving account of his part in the last days of that action. It was first

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MANY OF OSWALD MOSLEY'S EAST LONDON supporters were unaware of the detention of he and his members of BRITISH UNION in May, 1940.

They never did know.....

'THEY DIED AT CALAIS AND DUNKIRK'

by
Pat Dunegan

ON MAY 23 1940, SIR OSWALD MOSLEY was ignominiously arrested with no charge or trial to follow: only a conspiracy of silence and innuendo, set to continue to the end of his life and beyond. By the end of June, some 800 men and women of BRITISH UNION, including Mosley's wife, DIANA, had been detained. Many thousands of his supporters in the Forces, who had actively supported his efforts to avert the war in which they were now enmeshed, were quite unaware of this situation until much later. This was particularly true of his East London supporters, many who never did know. For they died around Calais and Dunkirk.



PAT DUNEGAN

ON THE SAME DAY, I sat behind an antiquated Lewis-gun in a sandbagged pit by the side of a Belgian road near Ypres. Ypres!; the name was familiar. I had read about it in school history books and heard my father talk about it. Had I heard Oswald Mosley refer to it? I don't know: certainly he had often spoken about the carnage of World War 1, and fought hard to avert World War 2. I had actively supported him since early 1936 in Shoreditch, then Islington branches of British Union. "MIND BRITAIN'S BUSINESS" had been the basis of the campaign to stay out of a foreign quarrel, which, as he forecast, cost us an empire and needless loss of British lives.

Before that day I had only seen a very few dead - in repose surrounded by sweet-smelling flowers. The foul stench of death and screams of the wounded has marked me for ever. As I gazed on the gelid, pathetic inane things that once were human, I understood for the first time Mosley's abhorrence of war, and his answer to a question I once asked. "The glamour ends when the killing begins".

Four days later, trapped with about forty others in a four-storey warehouse under concentrating bombing attacks over several hours, the exit blocked by fallen masonry, it seemed we were to be entombed. From the dust and gloom in a corner of our concrete umbrella came the singing of a popular hymn (how we invoke the aid of the Lord when death seems near!) but in my agnosticism I could not join in the chorus and instead sang with vigour British Union's Marching Song. To my amazement, and with not a little fear, I thought I was on the side of the angels as two lusty voices joined in. One, with whom I later escaped, was from Hackney, and a fan of British Union's Mick Clarke; the other gave me a broad grin as we finally dug our way to the fading light, and I never saw him again. I was lucky and jumped off the mole at Dunkirk on June 3 to return to a very different England, with many of my old comrades interned, but most in the services, many of whom I know died in those four days of a brother's war that they and their Leader had been unable to stop.

I have many times since visited the Military Cenotaph at Dunkirk, where I salute those who lie there asleep. Yet I never feel alone as I silently singing the Marching Song as I did with full-er voice so many years ago. And from row on row of white crosses, I hear a vocal accompaniment, and wonder if their social ring haloes some spot in Paradise.

So many gone, so few remain, yet still with faith in Mosley, Our Man, his ideas; our creed. If 'the spirit lives, the rest will follow'.

(First published "COMRADE" No.2 June 1986)

7 Leslie Grundy

and to assist the Discharged Prisoners Association in rehabilitating those ex-prisoners considered worth helping".

In his memoirs, Leslie has much to say on the social conditions before the First World War and the war years - the changing attitude of the people as their husbands, sons and brothers returned not from that holocaust into which "Britain, France and Germany had thrown the flower of European manhood...and sacrificed it, for what? In the years that followed, it seemed to have enriched America at the expense of Europe".

When his father died in 1919 his mother's position "was a grievous one...a widow with 6 children and only one bringing money in". Although the local groups for whom his father had worked were helpful - they found his mother a part-time female probation officer's job it brought in "only a small income, and many years of poverty lay ahead". Leslie had been at a 'Higher Grade' school, paying a monthly fee depending on father's income. After considering the circumstances the authorities granted permission for him to leave and "it was a great relief to start work and contribute a small amount to help my mother".

He became an apprentice engineer until he became unemployed which, together with the grim social conditions existing for so many of his countrymen in the 1920s made him become very politically conscious.

However, he found the Conservative Party "the party of privilege and snobbery... the so-called patriotic party, which on the whole had little to do with the genuine love of their fellow-countrymen regardless of their station in life". The Liberal Party "was about to be taken over by the Labour Party as a contender for power. It died in the Twenties and has been kicking the coffin-lid ever since"! For a time it seemed that Labour was the party of change, but in the end he found it wanting.

Born from life experience and study, he had developed a view on what was necessary for the future of Bri-

-1944-IN MEMORIAM-1994-

BRIND, Maurice: Faling British Union; one of 5 Faling Blackshirt brothers; Clement died in German concentration camp 1942 when Guy in British concentration camp. 11 July 1970
CRABTREE, Bill: Bury, Lancashire British Union & Union Movement. July 1975
DONOVAN, Captain R.D.E.: British Union Asst. Dir. Gen. 1940; British Political Prisoner; married 1940; Women's Drums Corps; Drums Major; Heather Bond; served WWI at 16; with Lawrence of Arabia; Third Afghan War with 129th Baluchis D.C.O. 26 July 1985
EDMITS, John: British Union; Parli. Cand. Evesham; National Farmers Union; British Political Prisoner; Union Movement. July 1978
GUGH, Joseph 'Bowie': Birmingham British Union; Drums Corps; British Political Prisoner after Army Dunkirk evacuation. July 1963
HAWOOD, Alan: Croydon British Union; Union Movement; Sussex printer. July 1969
SLOTT, George: British Union D/Ldr. Richmond; British Political Prisoner. 29 July 1978
SHREVE, Philip: British Union agent Middleton & Prestwich bye-election 1940; British Political Prisoner, victim of M25s Camp Q20 Interrogation Centre, Haslemere; post-war in Holy Orders. 14 July 1987
TAYLOR, Harry: Shorelitch Union Movement; husband of Vicky. July 1961

tain but "I was a man interested in politics without a party to support...and by 1931 my views were so different from the orthodox that I felt politically alone."

When in 1930 the Labour Party "suddenly discovered it had been chasing moonbeams over the past 50 years, because the real capitalist enemy resided elsewhere, it collapsed" and he suggested that "its tombstone was buried with its corpse" and that "some day when it is exhumed the epitaph put on it should read 'Here lies the body of the Parliamentary Labour Party who tried to solve first class problems with third class brains'".

By the early Thirties he concluded that "unless our Parliamentary system was reformed, the country could not be properly governed and was at the mercy of outside forces over which the British electorate had no control. I had nothing but contempt for the politicians who operated such a system". (After 60 years, nothing has changed! Ed)

By 1932 he had watched "with care and interest the activities of Sir Oswald Mosley who seemed to be the only man who could measure up to the standard of leadership Britain required". But he had some reservations.

However, he went to hear Mosley speak for the first time at a Manchester meeting and was very much impressed. He already appreciated his outstanding qualities, and took home to study all the available literature.

He soon knew he had found his political home. It was 1935 and he and his wife Marion joined British Union immediately. Years later he was to write to "COMRADE": "My wife and I have been together for 55 years. For 50 years of our happy mar-

ried life we have been dual loyal followers of Sir Oswald Mosley".

Leslie very soon became Buddersfield District Leader, and later District Inspector, and office he held when he was detained under the infamous 18B regulations in 1940. (An extract from his memoirs on detention was used in "COMRADE" August/September 1988, "How I disturbed the peace in Walton gaol". Ed)

Released after 8 months, he was assisted by a police inspector who he had once helped in making an arrest, to join the Home Guard where his CO and colleagues had full knowledge of his

7 Pat Dunegan

published in June 1986 **COMRADE**. He committed from his story that he was wounded during the action, resulting in his medical discharge four years later)

After the war he became active again in Mosley's cause, becoming an organiser of Mosley Book Clubs, then Union Movement in South East London. He was also ever present in the actions to beat off the street violence of such as the 43 Group trying to kill off the new Movement at birth, his by now large physical presence an asset to the fledgling Movement.

He retired from active participation in Union Movement to concentrate on building a business in the 1950s, but was regularly seen at Union Movement, and later Friends of OM social gatherings until the last few years when a debilitating illness brought immobility. He remained however, a handsome donator to the cause, and kept in touch by letter and telephone with old comrades.

Farewell Pat old comrade, with the added words you so often used, In Union, and old comradeship.

Old Comrades



★ Be an early bird! ★
COMMEMORATION DINNER
 November 18 £14

'record'. He was selected for the Exhibition Drill Squad who became winners of the regimental competition. When stood down he received a certificate from a grateful government thanking him for his services, and for "being willing to give my life if necessary for my King and Country", a most suitable accompaniment to his earlier government 'certificate' informing him of his detention without charge or trial, for reason of his "hostile association".

He and his family had some difficult times arising out of his detention after the war. He had been determined to return to his native town to "face all those who oppose me". He did not return to active politics but maintained an interest in the activities of Mosley and Union Movement. With the birth of **Friends of O.M.**, though now in his late 70s, he took a great interest in its purpose and wished to be associated. He asked for permission, which was granted, to use the circular Mosley head FOM 'logo' on his letterheads. He also at FOM's request, granted interviews to the increasing number of students and writers researching the Mosley story. Although to inform to attend FOM's London functions he always sent his best wishes. He did however, have the satisfaction of attending the Manchester gathering in 1989 where he met for the first time for many years several of his old 18B comrades.

The loss of his wife five years ago was a great blow but arose from his sorrow to survive alone in his continued loyalty to Mosley and old comrades.

Let younger generations take stock of the type of men who who devoted their lifetime to loyalty to men like Mosley, and to cause and comrades.

COMRADE

Incorporating ACTION and UNION

Newsletter of Friends of QM



No. 46

'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'

August/October 1995

THEY SEE 'discrimination everywhere, even where it does not exist. It....promotes affirmative action and positive discrimination.'

Richard Littlejohn, Daily Mail, 29 September 1995

'Richard Littlejohn is wrong to sat the Commission for Racial Equality 'promotes affirmative action and positive discrimination'the CRE has never advocated such practices.'

Sukdev Sharma, Commission for Racial Equality, Daily Mail, 5 October 1995

So who is fooling who Mr.Sharma?

END THEIR ARROGANT QUANGO

BY JOHN CHRISTIAN

The Racist Anti-Racists

AT A TIME when the Commission for Racial Equality, that Government quango set up with all political parties support to oversee the Caucasian natives, is protesting that it does not promote affirmative action, is in fact supporting the affirmative circulation to the media, opinion formers, and other dubious propagandists, a fabricated, sick and offensive postcard.

Henry Williamson Centenary



To HW

Ever with us

Henry's 'mischief', the Flash & Circle of British Union, still visible on a farm wall at Stiffkey, Norfolk where farmed in the 1930-40s.

Published, it states, by the European Youth Campaign Against Racism, supported by the CRE and created by Saatchie and Saatchie Advertisin - who have been reported donating their professional skills to the CRE - the postcard shows fabricated photographs of four human brains captioned African, European, Asian and Racist, the size of the latter reduced in size by more than half.

First, mailed as a postcard it is very likely



'Public Nuisance'

'Is it not time to consider whether they've outlived their usefulness? Are they a public benefit or a public nuisance?'

— Martin Mears, new President, Law Society, 6 October 1995

contrary to Royal Mail regulations, that is, if in today's political correct

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Old Comrades - as seen on TV



'He was the finest speaker in the world at that time. You had to live through it to know what it was like'

Sid Bailey - London 1995

The Commemoration Dinner:

Saturday, 18th November, 1995

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

BROCKING, George T. 22 and **DAY, Kenneth G. 20**, World War 2's First Casualties

Blackshirt comrades and RAF No.9 Sqdn:killed in action bombing German Fleet Keil Canal on second day of war: Brocking remembered on Air Force Memorial, Runnymede with 20,566 other airmen with no known grave. Day first buried with full military honours by Luftwaffe at Oudhaven Cemetery: now lies in Becklingen War Cemetery, Salzbach, Germany.

4 September 1939

BRADING, Clement: British Union HQ Admin Officer, Blackshirt speaker and Parliamentary Candidate Wood Green: one of five falling Blackshirt brothers: died in German concentration camp while brother GUY British concentration camp: Age 31, lies in Cracow Military Cemetery, Poland.

17 August 1942

LIME, Pte W.F.: RME reservist: Norwood British Union: killed in action, Normandy: remembered Service Panel, Norwood Cemetery.

27 October 1944

LUCAN, Ptl/Off Dennis DPM: RAF (VR): 207 and 607 Dambuster Sqdns: 21: killed in action over Kembs Dam: lies in Dambach Cemetery, Germany.

2 October 1944

TEKIPAW, Sgt. F.J.: Glider Pilot Regt Army Air Corps: age 28: killed in action Arnhem: lies in Oosterbeek War Cemetery, Holland.

24 September 1944

And now, 50 years on joining his Blackshirt comrades:

FRANKLIN, Sgt. Ldr Robert H.: RAF 115 Sqdn: Epping British Union: 28: missing 40. Will-helmshaven op.: remembered on Air Force Memorial, Runnymede.

16 October 1944

'In the ranks of our Blackshirt meetings march the ghosts of England's past and their strong arms around us and their mighty voices echo down the ages saying onwards'

Mosley - Manchester, 1933
"People's Century" Page 3

"Our country is involved in war...Our members should do what the law requires of them...if they are members of the Forces or Services of the Crown, they should obey their orders..." Mosley to his members, September 1 1939

Sqdn. Leader Robert Harcourt Franklin

STILL they return, that long line of Mosley's Blackshirts who escaped the politicians dragnet of detention without charge or trial, but who were lost in action in the war that was alleged waged in the cause of freedom.

One such was **ROBERT FRANKLIN**, an active Black-shirt of British Union's Epping Branch, until joining the RAF in 1938.

Our research into his service life is still incomplete, but we know he was posted to Palestine, and later to wartime Brit-

OUR BLACKSHIRT DEAD

ain after he had 'volunteered' for more active operations.

In June 1944, at 28, he was promoted Squadron Leader, and with a considerable number of bombing operations completed, was grounded to a desk job. He also about this time married his Joyce.

A desk job not too his liking might explain why a Squadron Leader was listed on 115 Squadron's Operational Report as Second Pilot on Lancaster ME592 which took off from Witchford at 17.45 hrs on a Wilhelmshaven bombing op. on October 16 1944. Had

the active Robert Franklin 'pulled strings' for a one off operation which would not have been recorded if it had not been fatal? Air Vice-Marshal's have been known to have 'done it'.

We shall probably never know, and accept the Commonwealth War Graves Commission statement that "sadly he has no known grave", and is commemorated on Panel 200 on the Runnymede Memorial.

So Robert Franklin, 51 years after his death, is reunited in our Roll of Honour, that Honour Charter listing those Mosley

men whose high patriotism suffered their payment of the supreme sacrifice in the war which they had believed would lead to Britain's decline, and which they had hoped to prevent.

It perhaps has meaning that his cousin, Blackshirt comrade and friend **FRANK LEE**'s obituary should also appear in this issue. Just before he died he had told Comrade's editor that they had maintained contact up to the fatal operation.

"Robert" said Frank, re-tailed his loyalty to Mosley and his ideals until his end. His great sorrow was that he and his comrades had failed to prevent the European tragedy"

1 QUANGO

society, an official willing to take the risk to his career can be found to risk pursuit of the matter.

Secondly, the European Youth Campaign against Racism is a political organisation seeming to be assisted by the CRE quango to tap British government funds - which means the British taxpayer - raises the smell of corruption.

And thirdly, apart from its offensiveness, if some other propagandist switched the African and Racist captions, incidentally not an unknown scientific opinion, the perpetrators would be on a fast boat to the Director of Public Prosecutions, courtesy of the Commission for Racial Equality.

Britain is hag-ridden by quangos, an American term for private organisations contracted by the government to carry out certain official functions. Under the last Labour government in 1979 there were over 3,000 quangos in the U.K. Some hundred were abolished Mrs Thatcher but they have increased again to 2,018 at the last count in 1993.

Parliament has little control over today's quangos. According to former Labour Shadow Environment Minister **Jack Straw**, these, "The Unelected State", cost the British taxpayer no less than £54.4 billions annually, repeat; £54.4

billions!, but answerable neither to Parliament nor to the voters who pay their salaries. John Majors' 'Bloated Bodyguard', a mass of arrogant officials answerable only to the Prime Minister.

The top example of the breed is the Commission for Racial Equality, whose remit, according to the words of a Labour politician who helped to set it up, is to "purge racism" in Britain. It specialises in prosecuting so-called offenders under the mostly tyrannical race relations laws, not always successfully. But with the weight of a gutless establishment behind it, its influence stretches far and wide and it is quite evident that it is primarily responsible for the outlawing of the indigent British from the workforce of many of our local councils. Councils have become obsessed with affirmative action and positive discrimination, actually illegal under British law, but nevertheless they seem to be able to law break with impunity. As claimed by the Daily Mail's **Richard Littlejohn**, "In many Town Halls, equal opportunities is widely believed to be a euphemism for 'no whites'."

"Uniting Britain for a just society" is the CRE's logo. According to a correspondent in the **Birmingham Post**, **Herman Ousley**, CRE Chairman has been telling business leaders

in Leamington Spa that racial equality can help a company's business. The local CRE Warwick District Branch claims to speak in the interests of Leamington Spa.

We backward British

How fortunate is heart-of-England Leamington Spa that the natives have such a caring and skilled race relations body to look after their interests who from July this year, it is reported, of the 12 elected executive committee members, 11 are of Asian or Afro-Caribbean extraction. The areas of the 'Third World' from which these executives or their antecedents hail obviously have much to offer we backward racist British on living race free lives.

What nonsense it all is, but what, for Britain, tragic nonsense. This island race, who has given to the world, including backward peoples, the highest principles of justice experienced in modern times, and has never been defeated by a foreign foe, is, in an age of rapid decline occasioned by its politicians mistaken disastrous Brother's war, suffering its age-old culture subdued, not by force of arms by a conquering invader, but by the laws of their guilt-ridden political representatives in the ivory tower of their corrupt so-called democratic system that over a half century or more has reduced Britain to a

powerless state and pauper state, and now threatens its indigenous people with what must be their ultimate destruction as a breed of men.

Indeed, that long line of our forebears must look down with incredulity as do the elders of our present generations, at the view of the land that once was theirs and for which so many freely shed their blood.

The vast areas of the increasing number of our towns and cities where it is 'not diplomatic' to show one's Caucasian face in the street where one was born; the display of our national flag, the Union Jack, over the soil from which it sprung, now considered to be 'racist' and insulting to the late-coming now entrenched conquering heroes, the 'ethnic minorities'; a land where the once free born may not hire or fire who he will, or even choose to who he should sell his house. The list of what has been taken out of the British way of life is now endless, as is universally known, though often illegal to declare. How much longer before even the seasonal popular air 'Dreaming of a White Christmas' is promulgated forbidden?

But as the onslaught on Britain's culture and way of life marches triumphantly on, as the CRE builds up its "purging of

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LAST POST

The once young Blackshirt of British Union, and the once young activist of Union Movement - a generation gap of 20 years, but bound in that union unique for those who spent a life-time in Mosley's cause.

KEITH GIBSON joined Bromley Branch of Union Movement in 1950 at 17 and was allotted to the Mosley Youth Unit. For the next two years he was, he once said, office boy at the UM HQ at Victoria! In July 1952 he had 3 months 'leave' - in HM Prison. He had shouted "Gromyko go home" when the new Soviet Ambassador arrived at Victoria Station, was arrested and received that savage sentence.

Apart from his office chores, proofing Union for editor Raven Thomson, organising the papers mailing list and despatch, and serving in the book shop, he was also active in street activities, including UM's Drum Corps.

In the early 1960s he had been appointed East London Area Organiser, working closely with London Organiser Fred Bailey.

In 1962 he became OM's Political Secretary when Jeffrey Hamm was given the



new post of General Secretary, Barry Ayres being Organising Secretary. When Ayres resigned a year later Keith also took over that post. In the 1964 General Election he was appointed UM Chief Election Agent by OM.

Later, domestic needs brought about his retirement from active politics and he held a post in a large business organisation for a number of years, ill health bringing early retirement.

Nevertheless, after the death of OM, he was one of the founders of Friends of O.M. and in recent years, a regular attendee at the Commemoration Dinner, speaking at the 1990 event.

Keith, who was 62, died in March, and it is with sadness that we have only learned of this recently.

FRANK LEE joined Southend Branch of the BUF in 1935 after seeing a colleague at the office he had joined changing into a Blackshirt before leaving, and a few days later found another member in the office.

In 1937 several national papers published photographs of his wedding. He had earlier met his bride, 17 yr old Maria from Munich working as a nanny in Southend, and for the press present he gave the Mosley salute!

In 1940 he was arrested on a 'trumped-up' theft charge and remanded for two weeks in Brixton prison while the police were 'making enquiries'. He was then released without a court appearance.

During the war an inherited genetic disorder, from which he suffered for the most of his life, kept him from the armed forces when, if the official fraudulent line on Mosley's men was authentic he should have been a security risk, he was involved in the top secret work of a self-sealing petrol pipe for tanks and aeroplanes.

After the war he joined Union Movement and two years after the early death of his Maria stood as a candidate in a Harrow

Council By-Election in 1968.

In the 1930s he was an enthusiastic amateur cine-cameraman and shot many scenes of British Union activities, including the 'Battle of Cable Street' in 1936, at some personal risk, from the top of a bus. It is a great loss to the Mosley Archives that all his work has been lost. In charge of his BU District Leader, they were in a packing case missing en route to Canada.

Shortly before his death the editor of *Comrade* was able to tell him that his Blackshirt cousin, *Squadron Leader Robert Franklin*, killed in action in 1944, would be added to our Roll of Honour in this issue. Little did we know that Frank also would be sadly featured.

Several old comrades from British Union and Union Movement attended the last rites. Although he missed the May Buffet because of a recent hip operation he was a regular attendee of FOM functions.

His diminutive cheerful and courteous presence will be sorely missed.

2 QUANGO

racism", otherwise the British, there are now signs that, full of its own importance, it has sailed too far. With the now self-evident failure of the American positive discrimination experiment fresh in mind, the actions and purpose of such as the CRE is now being publically questioned.

Peter Lilley, the leading advocate of cutting government spending should have the Commission for Racial Equality well in his sights. The head of the Law Society has said it should be closed down.

The sooner the better.

THE EDITOR apologizes for the late publication of this issue of "Comrade".

For those readers who have not been otherwise of details of the COMMEMORATION DINNER on Saturday November 18, and wish to attend, telephone 0171 249 1791

1 "People's Century"

EAST LONDONER and Friends of O.M. Council member **SID BAILEY** was one of the few British, listed in advanced publicity as Survivors of the Thirties Great Depression - and how they coped with the crisis following the 1930s Wall Street Crash - to be shown in the BBCs November 1 edition of its 26-part blockbuster "Peoples Century".

Although heavily orientated to the American and world TV market, little time was given to the British and European tragic experience.

However, although Sid Bailey's contribution was only a brief extract from a more than an hour interview, we who have had years of experience of BBC and media bias towards Mosley's ideas can not, for the first time within living memory, make any charge in that direction.

● UNFORTUNATELY **SID BAILEY** did not see his TV debut. He has been in hospital for two months quite seriously ill. As we go to press we hear of improved news of his prognosis.

The programme had shown the world wide results of that American capitalist crash - a world of mass unemployment, suffering, hunger and want, and the lack of ability of all democratic governments to solve the problem.

Many people were attracted to the alternative to capitalist democracy which emerged in the 1930s it was said. Both Fascism and Communism claimed there was no need for mass unemployment, and by comparison efforts by democratic governments seemed futile, although it missed the opportunity of pointing out that after nearly twenty years, Communist Soviet Russia had solved the problem by millions of its people being liquidat-

ed, or incarcerated for a slow death in the Gulags.

Enter Bailey as one who had put his faith in the solution of Oswald Mosley, mistakenly described as the Far Right, and he joined the BUF.

"What could they (the old gang parties) come up with - nothing" he said. "Politics was changing because they all followed the old capitalist system. You either have to change or drop behind". He went on to speak of Mosley in the most glowing terms.

The BBC went on to to give a fair description of Mosley's political career - how he had resigned from the Labour Government when his radical plan to solve unemployment by government intervention had been rejected. It followed with archive clips of a Mosley mass meeting, marching Blackshirts, and what must be one of the most inspiring perorations in the English language - his call to the people, with the "mighty ghosts of England's past and their strong arms around us", to achieve all for England's sake.

It was brief, but it will be remembered.

How the B.U.F. came to Geordieland: 3

THE SECOND YEAR

FIGHTING OFF THE RED MOBS

THE NORTH EAST winter weather of 1934 curtailed Newcastle Branch outdoor activities, confining these to groups of young Blackshirts, 'straining at the leash' to get Mosley's Message to the People, to their new Clayton Street HQ. Dominating their thoughts was news of the Spring Rally and Leader's Meeting at London's Albert Hall. Would the Branch be sending a contingent? Who would be going? Excitement and enthusiasm ran high, particularly among those who had attended the previous Autumn Rally at Belle Vue, Manchester.

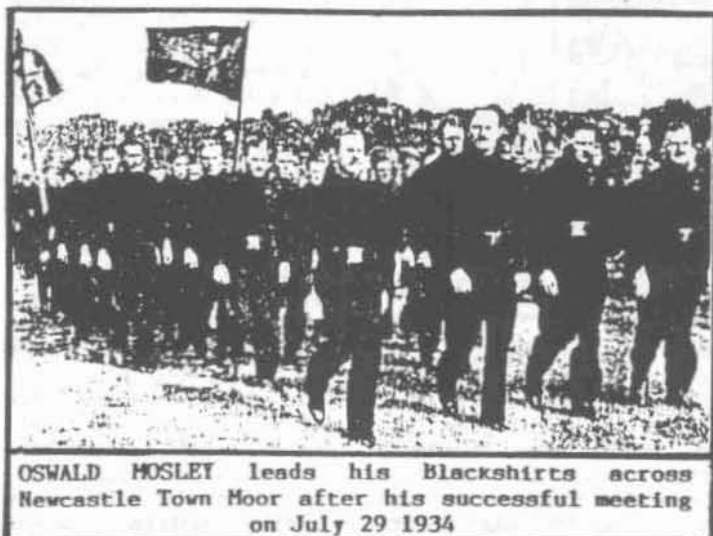
The great occasion arrived and a full load of young Blackshirts made their 6½ hour journey to what was a momentous and unforgettable experience at the Albert Hall, and with the peroration of The Leader's speech still ringing in their ears, they crossed the new Tyne Bridge to their HQ some 18 hours after departure.

For those young Blackshirts 1934 was to be a year of great National Rallies: Olympia; Hyde Park; a second Albert Hall and Edinburgh, but in Newcastle their was to be two extremely violent confrontations with 'red' hooligans and dupes at the new police recommended Cowan's Monument public meeting sight, some 500 yards from the traditional Sunday meeting in the Bigg Market.

The year's Sunday meetings got away quietly, the first drawing a relatively small audience; the second saw a trebling in size, the question time period encouragingly orderly, police presence - two.

Came the third meeting the crowd was bigger, noisier, with question-time shortened due to organised chanting by the obvious organised opposition. The police presence increased to three!

The fourth of these meetings saw a considerable crowd awaiting the arrival of the marching column of



OSWALD MOSLEY leads his Blackshirts across Newcastle Town Moor after his successful meeting on July 29 1934

Blackshirt stewards with their speaker, Tommy Moran. After an initial loud cheer-like greeting which in retrospect was seen to be a signal for certain 'Red' elements to 'close-in', the

meeting got under way quite - amicably so!

It soon became noticeable that the Blackshirt stewards forming a semi-circle in front of the speaker were being subjected to a new

OUR CONTRIBUTOR at the time of the Town Moor meeting was 'on leave' - one of the Blackshirt 3-strong BUF Agricultural Team taking Mosley's message to the towns and villages into East Anglia, South West and South East England. We therefore tell the story of this event as reported by



UPON the high grass-land of Town Moor, tens of thousands gathered to hear Oswald Mosley, standing a lone figure on an improvised platform, sharply silhouetted against a bright sky on a brilliant Sunday afternoon. His voice rang out, the crowd listening with attention and interest to a masterly summary of the Blackshirt case.

Thousands had climbed the steep slopes of the Great North Road and poured on to the high grass-land, the crowd continuing to grow during the meeting. Some 2-300 local and imported 'Reds' had their discordant singing and maniacal incoherencies drowned by the loudspeakers.

The crowds loud cheers for Mosley on arrival and the presence of some 250 disciplined Blackshirts had subdued the 'Reds'

urge to violence, and on conclusion the crowds rendering of the National Anthem, drowning the 'Red Flag' was no doubt added persuasion.

Viewing the great and orderly crowd it was difficult to realise that the meeting was being held in face of threats and taunts of violence. For weeks the Newcastle 'Reds' had conducted an intensive campaign of incitement in an attempt to stir up the working class against the Blackshirts. For weeks they had had said the meeting would not take place.

Their threats of violence had failed, their determination to prevent the meeting collapsed in face of determined Blackshirt organisation, and the commonsense and decency of Newcastle people.

That such a meeting could be held in a city once associated with Red violence towards Blackshirts was because Blackshirts had met met Red terror, fought and broken it.

EARLY BLACKSHIRT and D-Day paratrooper **ROBERT RICHARD** continues his personal history of the BUF's Newcastle Branch.

A year in which Mosley's appeal for support warned that those who marched with him would face "the ferocity of the struggle and of danger" was personally realised by permanent scarring by the Red mob.

form of provocation! The prodding with pins of their backsides!

There was some subtlety in this operation. There was no general attack at one and the same time which undoubtedly would have resulted in a concerted reaction. It was for a time intermittent but inevitably created a situation impossible to ignore in a disciplined way. The greater majority of the crowd were naturally unaware of what was happening. In fact it had the appearance that the Blackshirts were restless and looking for trouble.

Speaker Tommy Moran was compelled to take quick action and rapped out the command of "About-turn", an order carried out by the stewards with such alacrity that the front ranks of the crowd fell-back a few yards, which was again misconstrued by the crowd as a deliberate threat. Screams of "Militarism", "Thugs", and so on went up from many points of the crowd. The covert 'red-attack' was succeeding in creating a mob situation. Massive crowd-pushing tactics commenced, fists were flying, the speaker was off the rostrum. Pandemonium and confusion reigned. The rostrum disintegrated, several pieces of which became weapons in the hands of the 'red hooligans'.

The police moved into the melee, the greater mass of the crowd rapidly falling back, and within minutes the compact group of Blackshirt stewards were standing alone at the Monument. A word of command and they formed a column and marched off with blood streaming from the facial wound of one young Blackshirt.

Back at Branch HQ the casualty was examined. He had sustained a severe vertical split in the upper lip, having been clubbed with a large piece of the smashed rostrum. He was taken to hospital where the wound was surgically stitched, both inside and outside the mouth. The resulting disfigurement is still visible

some 55 years later and has always been noted as an identifying scar for passport purposes. (And presumably in Robert Richard's Parachute Regiment Pay Book!...Ed.)

Subsequent consultation with the Police when giving notice of the next meeting led to their suggestion that 'Perhaps the blackshirted stewards in a ring around the rostrum presented a target and/or provocation to the opposition?...further 'That the removal of the stewards as an organised force would remove a target for violence. The reporting of the use of pins as a weapon was treated with scepticism - 'where was the proof? - where was the evidence?' When it was pointed out that the injured Black-shirt was indicative of "Bloody violence" the reply was "If he hadn't been there he would not have been injured"!

It was becoming clear that if further use of Cowan's Monument for BUF meetings was to continue, the customary blackshirted support would be frowned upon.

Giving formal notice that the BUF would hold a further meeting the following Sunday, the organisers told the Police that their suggestions regarding stewarding had been noted, and mentioned that BUF members also had a 'right' equal to that of the communists, or anyone else to attend open-air public meetings and that "It was the responsibility of the officers-of-law and order to maintain order".

It was decided that the meeting would be held without the usual organised stewarding, although it was not believed that the 'reds' would refrain from attacking the speaker. Neither would any police presence be such as to provide an adequate pre-attack protective screen as until disorder occurred they were bound to maintain a clearly neutral distance. (It is well for readers of this narrative to bear in mind that there was then no police riot-gear, walkie-talkie radio communications, or specialised police training in hostile crowd control).

Much thought was given to how this next meeting would be organised in view of the police 'advice' and our experience of the determination of the local red-hooligan-gangs to deny free-speech to the BUF by organised violence.

First, there would not be the customary march to the meeting. Speaker Tommy Moran with two assistant speakers, Bob Sheville and Jack Lynne,

would form the rostrum party. It was judged that from the moment the 'reds' decided to mount a determined attack on the rostrum, the Speaker and two deputies with their backs to the Monument could hold-out a whole minute before a 'hospitalisation-situation' occurred! (Maybe?) Therefore protective relief-aid within that time-margin was of the essence.

Next, the Speaker would dispense with a rostrum, the fifteen inches high monument base would serve this purpose.

Finally, and this the hub of the '60 second protective relief' - considered vital in the estimated circumstances: there was to be three parties each comprising six Blackshirts, timed to assemble on the crowd periphery at three separate points, at the same time as the Speaker commenced his speech. Each of the Black-shirt sections would assume a stationary position at the outer-edge of the crowd which would place them no nearer than 30 yards from the Speaker. In addition, timed to assemble by 'strolling' in a side-street some 50 yards distant and to the rear of the Monument would be another fifteen Blackshirts, their arrival time not less than 3 to 4 minutes after the meeting starting time.

The three important features of these arrangements:

1. No uniformed Blackshirts would be visible at the meeting site before the speakers had started the meeting.
2. The Blackshirts would approach the venue in pairs, from three directions.
3. Their arrival timing was of the utmost importance - NOT BEFORE the Speaker.

As anticipated, the arrival of the three speakers was greeted with the usual loud 'assembly-yell', forshortened when it was seen there was no marching column. Shouts about the absence of "bodyguards"; "have they deserted"; "are they on strike" etc. Crowd attention, which was 30-40 yards in depth, was fully centred on the rostrum.

'Fists began flying'

Tommy Moran mounted the improvised platform. Holding up both arms and giving a placating smile, started his speech. Desultory shouting indicated that the main body of 'reds' were fronting the crowd. Within the first minute they began mounting the base-plinth flanking Moran. Chanting started in-time to a gesticulated beat led by a man on the corner of the



PAPER! Three Newcastle Blackshirts setting out on a sales drive. They are (left to right) E. Conning, W. Donaldson and J. Cox.

base-plinth. This continued for about a half-minute and coincided with a distinct growing pressure surrounding the three Blackshirts, forcing the two assistants to step-up and join the speaker. The 'red-mobsters' closed-in and tried to drag the Blackshirts down, and fists began flying! The three periphery Blackshirt squads, in 3 wedge-formations, then began moving forward, penetrating the crowd towards the seething mob at the Monument base. In about 15 seconds the 18 reached their goal. The fighting stopped momentarily. The 'reds' were clearly surprised!

Whilst this was happening, a police sergeant and three constables appeared, their tactics appearing to be aimed at dispersing the crowd, starting from the outer edges - one concentrating on traffic control. Despite the chaos and pandemonium, Tommy Moran attempted to re-start his speech! At this point the police sergeant came through the crowd and ordered closure of the 'meeting'. There then began a disciplined but fighting withdrawal from the Monument towards the side-street, linking up in the narrow street with their waiting comrades. The three police squad maintained a loose barrier across the street junction, separating the Blackshirts, now about 40 strong, from the 'red-hooligan mob'.

However, it was not a problem of the police trying to maintain public order. There was now no disorder. The mob-like environment had gone and the 'reds' had no stomach for an open fight against a 40-strong disciplined Blackshirt force. In

any case they had achieved their objective - the prevention of free-speech.

The Blackshirt contingent formed-up into a three-column marching order and commenced a disciplined return to their HQ, singing in strong voices, their marching song.

Nevertheless, the 'reds' were not yet finished. They divided into small gangs and deployed along the half-mile route taken by the marching Blackshirts to their HQ. This tactic created an impression of there being a wide-spread vociferous public opposition, a situation exploited by the media the following day, adding to the 'looking-glass' propaganda of distortion, that outdoor BUF meetings became 'deliberate confrontations'; organised communist violence became 'strong public opposition'; orchestrated chanting and shouted abuse became 'vigorous public protest'. In effect, what had been a traditional form and method of public communication and discourse, was being blatantly exploited and used to provide 'misleading and distorted opinion-forming propaganda'.

Needless to say when the Branch gave a notice of intention to hold a further meeting at Cowan's Monument, the police informed it that the venue was no longer available for this purpose, due to the problems of traffic control and other normal usage being interfered with, despite the fact that the BUF had moved their meetings to that venue on police advice.

In the light of this situation it was decided to review the whole programme

Turn to Page 8

ROGER EATWELL, Senior Lecturer in Politics at the University of Bath, possesses a talent - rare among historians - for being able to condense a considerable amount of information into a comparatively short space. Thus although his chapter on Mosley and the BUF occupied only 20 pages of his 327-page book he presents a shrewd and quite fair assessment of both.

But why do historians insist on calling Hitler a fascist? The essential qualification for a fascist

is belief in the Corporate State with its occupational franchise. Hitler never had the slightest interest in the Corporate State - though many in Britain saw it as the logical development of Guild Socialism. The answer must be that because so many historians hold Marxist views, they hate to

think that Hitler's "National Socialism" represented any kind of socialism.

Eatwell calculates that membership of the BUF reached 50,000 by June 1934 - but he also thinks it dropped to "around 5,000" by 1936! So much nonsense has been written on this subject that

the facts need to be stated:

By October 1934 - 2 years after its foundation - the BUF had achieved a membership of 40,000 consisting of 9,000 activists, 20,000 non-active members and some 10,000 secret members. Most of these secret members were small shopkeepers who were extraordinarily nervous about publicly acknowledging their support. No record of their membership was held at National Headquarters nor were their records kept in branch premises. Between October 1934 and December 1937 membership declined. However from January 1938 membership began to rise rapidly, reaching a peak of 40,000 by September 1939. Many of those recruits were from the Left, and the BUF was still signing up new members until May 1940.

It is now known that a considerable number of BUF members have left "Testaments of Faith" ranging in length from a couple of thousand words to full-length autobiographies. One such, by the BUF's poetess, Nellie Driver, is mentioned on page 24, and Eatwell's source notes suggest that there is a section about her, possibly with extracts, in a symposium entitled "The Politics of Marginality".

Eatwell believes that Mosley and the other Wartime internees "were kept in relatively good conditions and well treated" - a view that might be disputed by those members of the BUF who had been thrown into a prison wing of Walton Gaol that had not been occupied or cleaned since the First World War, and who were locked up for 23½-hours a day in these filthy "solitary confinement" cells while sadistic guards tormented them with warnings of imminent summary execution.

To this writer's knowledge, no historian has devoted attention to the treatment of some 2,500 other BUF members who, though not arrested, were placed under restriction orders that made their lives almost unbearable - preventing them from using the telephone, moving more than 3 miles from their homes, taking their children to school, even going to work. Many had to report to the police daily or weekly. Among those harassed in this way were Henry Williamson, the naturalist writer; Lady Pearson, sister of Churchill's Under-Secretary for War, Brigadier General Henry Page Croft; and Commandant Mary Allen, the founder of the women's auxiliary police.

PETER MARCY

"Fascism - A History by Roger Eatwell, Chatto & Windus, £20 net. 327 pages. 16 photographs.

CHANGING ATTITUDES

Historians and the BUF

Extracts from ROGER EATWELL's book, an example of the revaluation of Mosley and the BUF taking place in recent years.

● "Fascist ideology" says Eatwell, "is a form of thought which preaches the need for social rebirth in order to forge a holistic national radical Third Way."

● "Unfortunately for his career as a Conservative, Mosley quickly aroused the wrath of his local party association. He exhibited little of the deference to the party leadership which characterised most Conservatives. Instead Mosley was independent and at times highly critical, most notably over the failure to fulfil the wartime promises to create a 'Land Fit for Heroes'." P.179

● "Mosley proposed that the Government should immediately stimulate the economy with a Keynesian package of measures, such as reducing the retirement age to sixty, and a scheme of public works. Rejected by both the Cabinet and the Labour Party annual conference, Mosley chose early in 1931 to form his own grouping, the New Party, which would pioneer a 'third solution'." P.180

● "Failure to come to an agreement with Churchill and Lloyd George reflected a more fundamental development in Mosley's thought. He was moving towards a break with Parliamentary democracy, which he felt was incapable of providing the decisive leadership necessary to solve the growing economic problem." P.181

● "Mosley admired the way in which Mussolini had created order in a nation characterised by divisive tendencies, but he saw fascism as a doctrine which was more

suited to the 'theatrical' Italians than to the British. Yet during January 1932 Mosley saw the future - and he knew it worked." P.182

● "...the BUF programme represents one of the clearest statements of policy ever to be put forward by a fascist group." P.182

● "The BUF's foreign policy was essentially based on an attempt to maintain the imperial status quo. Given Britain's relative world decline, there was clearly no question of major expansion. Mosley was, therefore, willing to approve German and Italian aspirations as long as they did not conflict with British interests." P.188

● "In all, about 1500 people were detained for fascist or pro-German sympathies. Although rumours have persisted concerning Ramsay, most were undoubtedly loyal citizens. Indeed, one BUF member was arrested while planning to sail to save men from Dunkirk, and another was arrested on his return from the brave rescue operation." P.190

● "The history of French and British inter-war fascism has been revised in many ways since the early 1970s. New work on French fascism has shown that it was not a minor foreign import, but that proto-fascist ideology was an important strand in the French political tradition stretching back through Socialism into the pre-war era. The leading Israeli historian Zeev Sternhell, has even argued that fascist ideology reached its

most advanced state in inter-war France, representing a serious synthesis of nationalism and socialism. This argument is overstated and focuses too much on fascism's left-wing routes, but it underlines the growing willingness to accept fascism as being based on a serious body of doctrine. The last point could be made about Britain, for Mosley's academic biographer, Robert Skidelsky, has portrayed his subject as capable of developing a serious programme concerned with Britain's long-run economic decline. He has also argued that the BUF were the victims more than the perpetrators of violence, a line which has been taken up by some other historians." P.278

● "At the turn of the twentieth century, a new set of ideas emerged to challenge the dominant ideas of liberalism and socialism. The emerging partial rehabilitation of fascism could help to contribute to a similar *fin de siècle* stirring. Fascism is still an ideology that dare not speak its name in polite company, but central tenets - such as the quest for community, the desire to rediscover national identity, and the belief that a new socio-economic order is required - seem to be re-emerging on the European mental landscape." P.279

Eatwell concludes that: "Fascism is on the march again. Its style may at times be very different, but the ideological core remains the same - the attempt to create a holistic radical Third Way." P.286



BRANCH 'PIN-UP': Kingston Women Blackshirt Mollie Slater

A RECENT welcome addition to studies of local British Union branches is 'The Blackshirts in Kingston Project'.

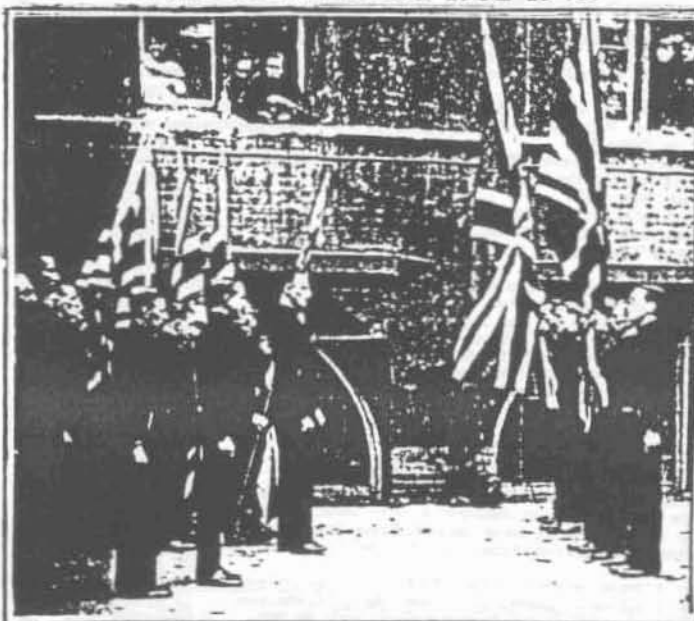
This purely factual investigation, involving extensive research by a local resident, focuses on the pre-war British Union branch in Kingston-upon-Thames in the suburbs of south-west London. It consists of four parts: a Written Study, Pictorial Study, Documentary Study and two 1½ hour audio cassettes of an interview with the branch's Womens District Leader.

The Written Study records such events as 'Mick' Clarke coming to speak in Kingston Market and the unsuccessful attempts by the local Reds to stop him; the impromptu march through Kingston by three Blackshirt branches in the evening following the Battle of Cable Street, major local meetings by Mosley and other leading BU officials and the arrest of at least three branch activists in 1940. The Project also records the post-war activity of the Union Movement branch in this Royal Borough which managed to gain about 1000 votes in a local election as late as 1968.

The Photographic Study has been helped by the discovery of a

BRITISH UNION HISTORY

A study of the Kingston-upon-Thames Branch of the British Union 1932-1940.



Kingston Branch Colours presented by Oswald Mosley at the House NQ, Chelsea, 1934

re-war album of 'snaps' taken by a member showing uniformed Blackshirts selling papers in central Kingston and even a picture of the last Branch Annual Dinner in 1939 complete with a Special Branch plant' in the crowded room.

The Documentary Study contains extensive reports from local newspapers of the branch's activities and includes transcripts from Mosley's 1938 speech in Surbiton Assembly Rooms following the Munich Crisis which received one more column inch of space than a speech on the same subject by the M.P. for Kingston appearing next

to it.

Some indication of the thoroughness of the Project is to be seen in the recorded interview with the local Womens District Leader, Blanche Greaves, who was also the Bass Drummer in the British Union Womens Drum Corp. She was evidently located following a 10 year search!

This study differs from other recent works in that it is an impartial study concerned solely with recording information rather than drawing conclusions. There is little to find fault with in this scholarly Project though if pressed



SALES PITCH: "Blackshirt - One Penny". Kingston Blackshirts in Kingston Market



Kingston Womens District Leader & Bass Drummer Blanche Greaves (top) in British Union's Womens Drum Corps

would question the author's estimate of 500 card carrying members in Kingston: in the light of information from similar suburban London branches between 300 and 350 members would seem more near the mark. I would also have preferred the sources of information footnoted on each page rather than being given in a general list at the conclusion.

WILLIAM PARSONS

● Researchers wishing to consult this work will find copies at the Kingston Heritage and Museum Service, Kingston University Library, Sheffield University Library and the Library of the Imperial War Museum, London.

Court Peace Rally, a parade of the "Agony Wagons" lined up outside the Black House, Chelsea, together with uniformed drivers. A number of stills taken by members were used to illustrate John Charnley's autobiography 'Blackshirts and Roses' (available through FOM for £14.95 inc. postage) together with some from his own album. The FOM Pictorial Archive Group are now appealing to readers to see if they have anything to offer on loan so a copy can be made. One of the recent 'finds' has been a series of snaps taken at the 1936/7 Blackshirt Summer Camps at Pagham and Selsey. These, among other things, show a relaxed Mosley talking to his followers. However trivial it may seem to the owner, every picture tells a story.

ROY CUMMINGS

Every Picture tells a Story

ALTHOUGH the pictorial record of Sir Oswald Mosley's life and times is extensive, it is woefully incomplete. While his 1930s and post-war political activities are well illustrated by press and also by sympathetic photographers, the first known still photograph of Mosley only dates back to 1915 and shows the much published picture of a 19 year old in military uniform astride a horse. Despite extensive research, nothing has been found prior to this which is surprising considering the family background and the enlightened views of Lady Maude, his mother.



This informal picture of Oswald Mosley was taken by a 'happy snapper' at the 1937 Blackshirt Camp and has been dormant for over 50 years

Even in the 1920s records are sparse. Few newspapers took photography seriously. The written word was all important with often nothing more than a small head and shoulders picture being inserted to

break up the acres of print. The four elections during this period fully reported the campaigns but carried few illustrations. The Tatler and other social journals published pictures but these hardly reflected the reality of the age. During this time the Kodak Box Brownie camera with its fixed lens and idiot-proof exposure chart was beginning to make an impact, reaching its maximum popularity in the 1930s.

While it is not expected that many pictures of British Union processions and meetings were taken by this method, the few pictures that have surfaced give encouragement to believe that a few supporters did take something of interest and some may still be around among the yellowing snaps of 'baby on the lawn' and long-forgotten seaside holidays.

Among the snaps that have come to light is a group shot of the Honour Standards at the 1939 Earls

-1944-IN MEMORIAM-1994

BARNES, David: British Union: Union Movement speaker. August 1980
BELLINGHAM, Commander: Carlsson, M: Lecturer R.N. College: former MP Fing's Lynn & Maidstone: British Union: 22 August 1995
"Action" contributor. 22 August 1995
BELLINGHAM, Richard: Raynall "Dick": British Union Northern Organizer & official historian, his 300,000 word book Marched with Mosley at Sheffield University: 188 British Political Prisoner: Union Movement: at 87. 15 August 1986
BELLINGHAM, Guy: one of 5 Ealing Blackshirt brothers: 188 Political Prisoner in British concentration camp when brother Clement in German concentration camp where he died in 1942. 2 August 1965
de la Lanza, Maj. H.B.A. DSO MC: British Union: 188 British Political Prisoner with Mrs de la Lanza: Founder Member Norwich & King's Lynn Union Movement. August 1946
DOWDALL, Admiral Sir Harry KBE CB CMG: former Dir. Naval Intelligence & President RN College: former Anglo-German "Link" is comrade 188 British Political Prisoner with Lady Dowdall & son Compton: another son killed in action Crete: author of From Admiral to Cabin Boy. 13 August 1971
DOWNEY, Geoff: met Mosley in RVC 1941: British Union: sub-editor Aeroplane later Action 1937 and columnist & Blackbird (Aviation) & Blackbird (radio): British Union District Insp.: RAF W2: 2 August 1963
DOUGLAS, John: Hackney British Union: Merchant Navy W2. 26 August 1986
EVANS, E.C. "Bobby": Upminster: former South London British Union Movement. 17 August 1986
FIELD, Bill: early member N/London Union Movement after Army W2. 31 August 1984
FORSYTH, Ted: British Union D/Leader: Mosley: 188 British Political Prisoner: early organizer of Mosley Book Clubs & Union Movement in S/London. 13 August 1993
FRY, E.D.: Research Dept. British Union: edited Action briefly when editor arrested 1940 until himself detained 188 British Political Prisoner: pioneer of Union Movement. August 1950
GODDARD, Miss Cecilia: sister of George, British Union D/T Eye, Suffolk & BU & UMs Pettricks. 31 August 1990
HALLIDAY, "Auntie" Pearl: East London British Union & Union Movement: at 100. August 1987
JONES, Norman: British Union Agricultural Advisor: Parl. Cand. Haverham & Worthing: 188 British Political Prisoner: author The Spring Comes Again: Union Movement Agricultural Council. 20 August 1963
LEWIS, Richard: British Union D/Officer, Richmond, later D/Leader Twickenham. 22 August 1990
MACE, Reg: British Union Asst D/Leader, Epping. August 1988
MACE, Randolph: British Union D/Officer, Bournemouth. 5 August 1945
MORRIS, Harold: Harwood British Union 'London District Inspector: In Canada. August 1988
MURPHY, Mrs Marjorie: at 92: mother of British Union 'Union Movement's Jack Rowlands. August 1977
NEAVE, Eric: Mitcham British Union speaker: 188 Political Prisoner: Union Movement. 26 August 1954
NEAVE, Eric: Top Women Racing Driver: British Union: 188 British Political Prisoner: Un. Movement. 2 August 1983
NORMAN, C.F. "Charlie": British Union D/Ldr Westminster St. Georges & Dist. Insp.: Organizer London Cab Trade Group: 188 British Political Prisoner: BU Camp Leader at Ascut Concentration Camp: victim of M15 secret Interrogation Centre Camp 020, Ham, Surrey: Union Movement: time barrack room comrade of Lawrence of Arabia. 26 August 1971
O'DONOVAN, Percy: British Union NSD Branch & Union Movement: author Tacks the Other, Story of a Norfolk Farm, Sun in the Shade, 4 volume Flax of Dreams, 13 volume Chronicle of Ancient Sunlight, etc. etc. 13 August 1987
RAY, Thomas C.W.B.: British Union D/Ldr Spaltham D/Insp. 1st London Area: 1st Cdr R/W2. 6 September 1989
RAY, A.E.: East London British Union: Union Movement: post-war Dublin dealer rare books. September 1974
ROBINSON, Heather: Mrs. Boudiccas D/Ldr Westminster St. Georges British Union: Women's Drum Corps Drum Major: married BU Asst D/Gen Capt. R.D. E. Donovan just prior to their both 188 political imprisonment in 1940. September 1982
ROBINSON, Mrs. Floss: Slough British Union: founder Bournemouth Union Movement, later S/London UM. September 1982
ROBINSON, Phillips: Union Movement Organizer, Newport, Isle of Wight. September 1989
ROBINSON, Lt. Col. Sir Lionel: Berkeley Bolt: KBE: Kings Own Yeoford, L/I: 2nd Bombay Lancers & 9th Bombay Inf.: C-in-C. Malaya, Malacca & Persia, Khassat & Persian Coast & Islands: British Union Parl. Cand. Chelms. 11 September 1991
ROBINSON, Margaret: Accrington British Union: 188 British Political Prisoner: Union Movement. September 1980
ROBINSON, J.E.: British Union Bethnal Green show: 188 British Political Prisoner: Union M. 8 September 1956
ROBINSON, Andrew W.: Glasgow Union Movement: merchant navy: died at sea. September 1990
ROBINSON, Miss Elizabeth: London British Union speaker: French, German & music teacher: jailed 2 years in war for criticizing Churchill: St. Marylebone Union Movement Organizer. 4 September 1962
ROBINSON, Mrs. C. Bethnal Green British Union & Union Movement. September 1952
ROBINSON, Robert "Bob": CBE: British Union D/Leader Dorset West, holder Leader's Bronze Distinction: National Farmers Union: 188 British Political Prisoner: UM Organizer Essex: author Home Read Shave for UM Agricultural Committee: at 83. 15 September 1993
ROBINSON, "Archie": RVC 1914-18: British Union 1933-40: 188 British Political Prisoner: UM 1948-76. 31 October 1976
ROBINSON, C.W. "Bill": S/Croydon British Union: UM Accounts Insp. 1950 & Sydenham Union Movement. 12 October 1984
ROBINSON, Ronald: Bournemouth British Union & Union Movement. October 1949
ROBINSON, Richard: former N/London early Blackshirt: at 79. October 1989
ROBINSON, Mrs. Marjorie: wife of Leslie, British Union D/Ldr & Dist. Insp., Huddersfield. 22 October 1969
ROBINSON, Bob: British D/Ldr Ealing: 188 British Political Prisoner: Union Movement. 5 October 1975
ROBINSON, Miss Marjorie: British Union: early Union Movement active member. October 1980
ROBINSON, John: Islington British Union & Union Movement. October 1988
ROBINSON, Dr. Peter, Ph.D.: early Blackshirt: RAF pilot 1939-46: In California. October 1988
ROBINSON, George: British Union District Leader St. Marylebone. 17 October 1989
ROBINSON, Ernie: E/London market trader loyal Mosley supporter: Inns of Court Regt W2. October 1989
ROBINSON, Alexander: Ravenhill British Union D/Ldr of Policy: Ed. "Action" 1939/40 & "Union" 1948/55: 188 British Political Prisoner: soldier, writer, speaker, philosopher: true comrade & British & European patriot. 30 October 1955
ROBINSON, Francis "Frank": Linscombe British Union & Union Movement: father of UM & FOM Peter. 5 October 1975
ROBINSON, W. Vivian: Putney British Union & Un. Movement: 188 British Political Prisoner with father, mother, sister October 1981
ROBINSON, Mrs. Lilian: N/E Bethnal Green British Union: wife of "Archie". October 1990

Old Comrades



economic issue which, at that point-in-time, was receiving Parliamentary and/or media attention.

(3) Street sales of literature in the City-centre would be intensified by covering each of three or four of the best sales-points with more than one Blackshirt/salesman, and these pitches would be occupied for a longer period by a shift-system.

The first of this group of outdoor meetings was held about four weeks after the final Cowan's Monument clash with the local 'reds' and their imported collaborators. Although the audiences were comparatively smaller, they were each carried through to, and including a question period. There was no disorder, and the heckling was in the healthy traditional British way.

A several weeks gap must now occur in my Branch 'recollections', due to my joining colleague Bob Sherville who, with London's Arthur Mason, was engaged in the BUF's South West Agricultural Tour.

The Second Anniversary of the founding of the BUF saw another change in the Tyne-side District Leadership. Tommy Moran left to join the staff of NIK in London, and Jack Lynne was appointed District Officer, the District's youngest to date.

The last two months of 1934 saw the curtailment of outdoor meetings owing to the onset of the northern winter, and with the departure of Tommy Moran there was not a local speaker available. On two evenings a week members would meet to discuss and assimilate a variety of relevant political and economic topics, local and central government election regulations; current articles published in The Blackshirt; and the on-going study of The Leader's Greater Britain.

Throughout there remained the the enthusiasm for the main objective - to get the Mosley Message through to the British People.

(To be continued)

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101, Orwell Court, Pownall Road,
London, E8 4PP.

5 Geordieland

of summertime weekly outdoor meetings in the City centre. A re-appraisal and assessment was called for:-

(a) The period to be reviewed would cover 1933 and 1934 to date.

(b) Throughout this period about 15 meetings had been held. Statistically, 50% could be judged successful; of the remainder, four had ended in violent disorder; a further 3 or 4 were truncated, becoming a shambles within about 30 minutes due to orchestrated chanting.

(c) The press reporting of these events had restricted itself to giving publicity only to 'Disorder

(d) Whilst the meetings in 1933 had brought an encouraging number of new recruits and a measurable increase in regular readership of BUF literature, this particular positive gain from the meetings had slowed in 1934.

The overall picture emerging from this detailed assessment was that:

(1) Any series of City-centre outdoor meetings going beyond 3 consecutively was of decreasing propaganda value.

(2) On the other hand, a complete shut-down of these meetings would be damaging to the Movement's public image, and undoubtedly harmful to young Blackshirts' moral.

(3) The 'red-opposition' took 2-3 weeks to gather and organise effective 'mob' elements.

(4) The reporting by the print-media was slanted and misleading, and could be construed as 'bringing glee to the 'red-groupings'.

The decisions arising from this re-assessment was that:

(1) The City-centre outdoor meetings would vary in regularity, and when held would be in the Bigg Market.

(2) The object of such meetings would be to concentrate upon a categorical expression of a viewpoint or policy regarding a particular political or

COMRADE

Incorporating ACTION and UNION

Newsletter of Friends of OM



No. 47

'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'

November 16, 1996

'I could not ask to live at any other moment of history than this, because never before has Mankind been confronted with such choices of disaster or greater heights. Do live in that sense that you are Englishmen, are Europeans, that you come from people who faced tremendous odds again and again. Much is against you but you have within you that Will, that Spirit, above all that Faith and Belief which will lead the generations to come to look back at you in the pages of history with the proud words:

"To England, To Britain, To Europe -- They were true"

Oswald Mosley, 1963

November 16th 1996 his Centenary

Still sounds the indomitable beating heart,
still echoes the inspiring voice,
still abounds the unquenchable spirit

MOSLEY LIVES

By
Peter
Kennedy

**Yesterday—
Today—
Tomorrow**

A CENTURY on from his birth, OSWALD MOSLEY, and the Movement he led defy the categorisation of a political phenomena in a moment of time. Through the backdrop of their great crusades, the man and the Movement reach out with a timeless call, and one scarcely more urgent than this new dark age.

Mosley and those who took up his cause are the inspiring example of what might be achieved when large numbers of our fellow countrymen and women say "Enough" and go into the streets and lanes of Britain to proclaim a message of national recovery and renaissance.

Sixteen years after his death, the Great Englishman and European remains an outstanding figure of creative imagination, courage and inspiration, the role model of the union of the intellect and will which he saw as the highest instrument of political action.

Turn to Page 2

IN SAINNESS and with warm memories we report the death of 'MICK' CLARKE, one of founders of East London's first British Union branch, his dedication and leadership building N/East Bethnal Green into the largest branch. Later he became National

Propaganda Administrator until detained in 1940. He was Mosley's last surviving British Union senior officer.

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British Union
ROLL OF HONOUR
1939 1945

We Follow

For some will shudder, and
will weep to think
That out of all the world
you are the star
For us to follow -- even
to the brink
Of whences'er you lead.
If it be far
Or fatal, then our
footsteps follow too:
For, pledged to thee, to
that pledge we are true.

Thus, with the vow we
make, our thanks we give
To you who tore the pattern
of our lives in shreds,
And hung the tattered
remnants up aloft
To wave, a mute reproach
above our heads --
A bitter challenge for
the world to see.
For all thy scorn we
render thanks to thee!

We ask no easy path --
Show us a way --
That's harder, grander,
nobler than of old.
Teach us to strive, and
glory in the strife,
Nor falter when the flame
of life grows cold;
But meet Death with a
laugh, nor tear or sigh.
We ask thee, Leader, teach
us how to die!

PASQUIN 1939

They Followed

BANKS, Lt. Jack P. LeR/Sussex Rgt
(att. Gloucesters): 20: one of
three Brighton British Union
killed W2: at Stampersgate,
Holland: Lies Geel Cemetery,
Belgium. 3 November 1944
BUCKNELL, Sgt. Ronald: RAF(VR) 83
Sqn: 24: Croydon British Union
missing Berlin Op: Remembered
Air Force Memorial, Rannysede.
15 November 1944
GILLIES, W/O John H: RAF(VR) 511
Sqn: 26: 1 of 3 Leytonstone
Cry High Schl pupils joining
Leytonstone Branch British
Union killed W2: BU speaker:
Remembered Air Force Memorial,
Rannysede. 30 November 1943
WHITE, Lt. Albert E: R/Navy VR: 36
Lost HM Trawler Northern Rover:
Leicester British Union.
Remembered Lowestoft War Memorial.
5 November 1939

'Mosley was
genuinely loved
by his followers.
He had that rare
gift for inspiring
devotion and
fidelity'

'Hence the fury of the
Establishment...he laughed
at their blandishments and
their prizes. His scathing
opinion of the old party
game was what they
detested most about him'

ROBERT ROW Page 3

MOSLEY — Britain's Lost Leader says Peter Kennedy

Continued from Page 1

I have lost count of those who have said to me, 'If Mosley was alive today, he'd sweep the country!' Who among us would dissent from that?! Even those who balk at the prospect would have to agree that the interaction of the most gifted politician in British history, with the forces of decline and sleet in this age of national ignominy would be stimulating indeed!

Two years ago the Establishment was caught in a spin when a Daily Express opinion poll showed that a third of the British people would vote for a Le Pen were such a leader and party available in this country. With respects to M Le Pen, I would back a British thoroughbred to do even better!

Older readers of *Comrade* are likely to have personal recollection of Mosley's remarkable personality and qualities; a creative, analytical intellect allied to great charisma, energy, courage unequalled in British politics, and legendary gift of speech that spoke to reason and the heart. To be loved is not a condition to which even the more admirable politician can usually aspire, but Mosley was genuinely loved by his followers. He had that rare gift for inspiring devotion and fidelity. When his biographer, Robert Skidelsky said that Mosley developed a personal relationship with the people of East London unique in British politics, this was also the exuberant representation of the wider bond between the man and the movement.

Fate's elusive gift

"If only Mosley.....!" Awesome indeed were the gifts that Mosley took into his life's battle, but.... and here surely is where the IF is located.....they were unconsumed by fate's most critical and elusive gift; timing.

British Union was launched when the slump had peaked. Even so it grew over a seven year period during which the jobless trend dipped and the "international situation" got worse. Scarcely conducive factors for a rev-

'a courage unequalled in British politics'



Mosley leaving hospital after being knocked unconscious by a shower of bricks from a Red mob at an open air meeting in Liverpool in 1937. His message "We fight on and fight harder."

olutionary patriotic movement urging "Mind Britain's Business."

Yet despite this, the Movement entered the life of the nation as no other young political force has ever done. It set about destroying the class-based political culture of Britain, confronting the patriotism versus progress orthodoxy by uniting each in a dynamic new creed.

Mosley silenced a prelude to ending Great Britain

In doing so of course it inevitably attracted (to a degree unparalleled in British history) the hatred of the forces of class war, liberalism and reaction, its membership peaking on the eve of the war that was silence British Union as a prelude to putting an end to Great Britain.

As Mosley said, for the Movement, the war (an event that saw the paradoxical coalition of British class warriors and reactionaries) was a disaster of limitless proportions.

'Mosley developed a personal relationship with the people of East London unique in British politics'



With "Good old Mosley" East Enders greet him when he spoke at Salmon Lane, Limehouse after he headed a walk of thousands from a meeting at Victoria Park Square, Bethnal Green, a week after the 'entire population of East London had risen against him in the so-called 'Battle of Cable Street' on October 4, 1936, a suggestion that prompted Special Branch to report was 'far from reflecting accurately the state of affairs'.

When it was over, the potent and enduring legacy of the Establishment's anti-Mosley propaganda, combined with 50s 60s tranquility and prosperity to ensure that the new Union Movement fought along a very hard and inhospitable road. So for the second time in four decades, a ruinous Establishment and its placemen were fortunate in History's caprice.

What might have been achieved had fate showered the gift of beneficent timing on a man of genius rather than on the Macmillans, Wilsons and Majors? No war, no loss of Empire; no servility to foreign bankers and politicians, no "multicultural" Britain.

Instead, a peaceful, noble, dynamic, homogeneous Britain - a nation wherein, to recall the Objects of British Union, "All shall work and thus enrich their country and themselves.... Opportunity shall be open to all, but privilege to

none...and...the barriers of Class shall be destroyed and the energies of every citizen devoted to the service of the British Nation." Compare these words and vision with the conditions of Britain today.

But if Oswald Mosley is THE Lost Leader, what residual strength and encouragement can we draw sixteen years after his death? Surely this; that Mosley's life and record, and that of his Movement, are an extinguishable beacon in a very long night in the life of our country and Continent.

We are no longer a homogeneous, racially coherent nation. Even to speak of "Britishness" is to court the surveillance executives of the race thought police. To this extent alone, the challenge before us is greater than at any time in our history.

Our politicians are muddling us into crisis

Turn to Page 4

Needed more than ever in this age of sleaze and corruption amid scenery of decadence and decay says Robert Row

It was said by his political enemies in the 1920s that OSWALD MOSLEY was "born with a golden spoon in his mouth". The sanctimonious guardian of the Labour Party's conscience, Arthur Henderson, often referred disparagingly to Mosley as "the rich young man". But the Fates appeared to have showered the young man with every sort of gift: a distinguished record in the Royal Flying Corps over Flanders fields in the recent war, skill as a swordsman, great stature, charisma, brains, a formidable speaking style, wit, repartee, the ability to cast down opponents in debate. Mosley seemed to have it all. Little wonder that he was soon spoken of as a future prime minister.

So the flatters gathered round as his name soared like a meteor and his oratory drew the crowds. Fleet Street feature-writers singled him out. Hostesses competed to get him into their drawing rooms. That tedious old Fabian gasbag Beatrice Webb gushed in her diary, "We have just made the acquaintance of the most attractive man in the House of Commons", though very primly she feared that so much brilliance concealed dark motives. It was a time when most politicians were dull and grey and the colourful Mosley was just what the political system needed to liven it up.

Hence the fury of the Establishment, the mass media and the money power — the unholy triumvirate that directs British politics to this day — when they found he laughed at their blandishments and their prizes. Mosley's scathing opinion of the old party game was what they detested most about



'And he gave them a uniform, the blackshirt, raising them above the differences of class, making them an elite...And he gave them a spirit'

him. His attitude to the political system was scrap it and get a new one.

Mosley went into politics with two missions, to stop Britain being involved in a second world war and to build "a land fit for heroes to live in" promised in the first one. He entered Parliament in 1918 in his twenties as the youngest M.P. He had gained a lifetime's experience by the time he was through his thirties. Secretary of the New Members' Association that spoke for the soldier-M.P.s of 1918, active on the Peace with Ireland Council, he then went on to collaborate with Keynes in developing his economic ideas. By 1925 Britain was in the grip of a great deflation. Government and parliament abdicated as the bankers put the whole country through the mangle. That was the time when Prime Minister Baldwin got up to tell Britain it had to accept "a big reduction in wages", making a mockery of the pledged land fit for heroes to live in.

He stood by striking miners to the end

Mosley's reply to Baldwin was to sharpen the invective in his already stinging speeches. When

the General Strike in 1926 began, in support of the miners facing drastic cuts in their living standards, he was in the forefront of the resistance. But when the T.U.C. leaders lost their nerve, called off the strike and left the miners to their fate, Mosley stood defiant. The miners stayed out to the following winter until starvation forced them back to work at slashed pay. Mosley stood by them to the end, speaking again and again to packed meetings in their support.

More disillusionment lay ahead. By 1929, Tory prosperity based on deflated industrial wages was wearing thin. The coming Great Depression was hammering at the door. That year commodity prices were beginning to collapse worldwide, ominously for a Britain proudly claiming to be the world's leading trading nation. And in the General Election of that year the craft Stanley Baldwin contrived to loose it to serve his long term party strategy, handing over power to a Labour Party he knew would be overwhelmed by the problems on the way. In fact the Labour Party leaders had not the slightest idea what to do about the

Depression, until the crisis broke in August 1931 and the roof fell in on the whole bewildered gang.

Mosley was one of the ministers responsible for unemployment; characteristically he was given not given power to do anything. He endured Labour's clowning farce until Christmas 1929, when he put together his own ideas to deal with the rising unemployment. Famous as the Mosley Memorandum, it has since been highly praised by men like Professor A.J.P. Taylor and Richard Crossman. In 1930 however nothing was done about it for five months and the rejected outright, whereupon Mosley resigned from the government. Yet still Labour paralysed while the country sped towards an economic Niagara, Mosley launching his New Party in March 1931. It had a few stormy months before the crisis broke and a bogus coalition of old political duds was then hurriedly assembled as the "National Government of Great Britain". Such was the panic in the country that this blatant trick was acclaimed as a reassuring step! In the following General Election so hard-faced was the deception that the very men who had muddled Britain into the crisis were now presented as the prophets of better times ahead.

Mosley shed all his illusions

And a thankful country, recovering from its fright, voted for better times ahead. The New Party which had told the truth was wiped out at the polls. That was enough for Mosley who had now shed all his illusions. In October 1932 he founded the British Union of Fascists.

However, he paused to deliver a farewell jibe at the party for which he had worked so long and which had collapsed so ignominiously. Labour, he said, had spent years awaiting the

Turn to Page 4

◆ Mosley — Britain's Lost Leader

Continued from Page 2

with the rest of Europe, while courting the disaster of global free trade and the low wages, sweated conditions and all that comes with it. And linked with the unrestricted global market is another 21st Century nightmare; the threat of massive illegal immigration from the Third World to Britain and other European nations.

'What has happened to this country of theirs'

Meanwhile our young people stare into a future emptied of worthwhile work, homes, and a sense of fulfillment, but spewing out a sense of hopelessness and decay, crime, pornography and degradation. Older generations look on, wondering, fearing, what has happened to this country of theirs.

This much is certain. The political-social-cultural system that is responsible, reform itself. It must be swept away and replaced. Capitalism has sacrificed the happiness of many pursuit of profit. It has forgotten that an economy exists to serve the people, and not the other way round. It rejects the notion of community and nation, with mutual obligations and transcendent loyalties, and instead regards these as no more than marketing areas made up of individual, competing producers and consumers.

And worse could follow. The Daily Telegraph has cited a survey of 300 Conservative graduates, showing the "New Right Radicals" are indifferent to sexual ethics, oppose religion and favour the decriminalisation of drugs. "They are individualist and very internationalist (while hostile to Britain in Europe)." "They marvel at the globalisation of capital. They are not as rooted to the culture of the nation state as senior Conservatives might be." There heroes are John Redwood, Arnold Schwarzenegger and Victor Kiam.

If the Right have injected new life into the cliché about knowing the price of everything and the value of nothing, Socialism, now in eclipse, has also suppressed the human spirit, this time for the sake of standardised equality.

It opposes the dynamic, has a love affair with mediocrity, and cultural loyalty. At root - and seen in contemporary form, Political Correctness - British socialism in particular reveals a bias towards the perversion of the best in human nature. Each of these creeds, socialist and capitalist, is entirely material in its orientation, yet capable of leaving millions in destitution.

Mosley shows there is an alternative, and Comrade has performed an invaluable service in giving the historical record of what Mosley stood for, what his Movement achieved, the kind of men and women who supported him, and the ideals and policies that inspired them. Against the decades

of lies, vilification, fabrications and misrepresentations - a deep-died pattern which show no sign of fading - the truth is being told.

What would Mosley say to us in 1996? Here we can only speculate, but a combination of distinctive principles, noble vision, and an ever adapting response to changing circumstances are surely the basic factors.

Mosley's thinking was always ahead of events. He spared little thought for the past, living in the present and viewing the future. Mosley's proposals for 1948 had moved on from those of 1938, because the world situation had changed. By 1962 and again in 1972 they had adapted yet again. The approach of a new century would find his response ranging once more, re-aligning his core

thinking to new conditions. We must follow that example.

The quest for community, a desire to rediscover national identity, and the belief that a new socio-economic order is required, are the three principle convictions cited by the historian Roger Eatwell, as post-Fascism's challenge to socialism, capitalism and liberalism, now "re-emerging on the European mental landscape."

It is a landscape which must be shaped by the life's work of Oswald Mosley and the Movement he led. The Spirit - and the Example - Lives....the Rest will Follow.

◆ Mosley — Needed more than ever

Continued from Page 3

day when capitalism would fail and the hour of socialism would strike. The big day had come, but what happened? Labour's leaders had deserted to the enemy and the party faithful had fled the field. "What are we to think of a Salvation Army which takes to its heels on Judgement Day?"

Throughout his life Mosley poured out a succession of policies of action for the great issues of the day. That had been one of his main contributions to the Labour Party and New Party alike, and some of his greatest thinking was done for the B.U.F. Indeed there was a new seriousness about him from that time on, as the words from the Introduction to his book "The Greater Britain" show.

"We ask those who join us to march with us in a great and hazardous adventure. Not without struggle will the future be won. We ask the to be prepared to sacrifice all, but to so for no small and unworth ends. We can only offer to them the deep belief that they are fighting that a great land may live"

It was with the same dedicated spirit that Julius Caesar and a few thousand men crossed the little River Rubicon and

set out on their epic march to change completely the old Roman world.

Mosley was not only a hard innovative thinker. He was also probably the most dynamic British orator of his time. The "Manchester Guardian" reported one of his meetings on his road to fascism:

"He begins very smilingly with some reference to his legend, but he has not got very far before the smile disappears, and the face says 'into battle'. It is an earnest gripping mood. First the apathetic audience is arrested, then stirred, and finally swept off its feet by a tornado of a peroration yelled at the defiant high pitch of a tremendous voice -- a peroration the old men 'who muddled my generation into the crisis of 1914... who have laid waste the power and glory of our land...from whose tired old hands, stained with blood and disasters innumerable, our flag is slipping into dust and dishonour'"

'Came the quickening beat of Mosley's drum'

Thus it was not just another party, not just another movement that he led in the B.U.F. His purpose was to gather men and women and to re-



'Probably the most dynamic British orator of his time'

new them in order that they renewed their country. Across the land there came the quickening beat of Mosley's drum, beating out the slogan "Britain First", "Britain First". And he gave them a uniform, the blackshirt, raising them above the differences of class, making them an elite. For nations are saved by elites, not mobs. And he gave them a spirit -- "the steel creed of an iron age" -- a creed needed more than ever in this age of sleet and corruption, amid the scenery of decadence and decay.

"The choice before all great nations is heroism or oblivion" Mosley told the British people. That choice has now become of utmost urgency for Britain and for Europe.

LAST POST: In his Centenary Year Mosley's old East End boys laid to rest

Mick Clarke

THE LAST surviving senior officer of Mosley's British Union has died, in his 86th year, **ERNEST GEORGE 'MICK' CLARKE**. As the Movement's Senior Propaganda Administrator, he was one of the five who signed with Mosley the official Instruction to Members at the outbreak of the last war.

But it is not as a senior officer that he was remembered by his old comrades through the long years since the stirring events of the 1930s, and still is by the surviving few, but as the popular **'MICK'** who pioneered British Union's mass movement in East London where he was spoken of as 'the idol of Bethnal Green'.

It was in BOW that **MICK**, then 23, and **Patrick Owen Burke**, both in the furniture business, opened British Union's first East London branch in the autumn of 1934, to be followed shortly after by North East Bethnal Green branch, an old stable in Green Street. **Closley** assisted by FOM's **Cyril Plaskett** and **Dick Bullivant**, it became by 1936, remained British Union's largest branch, its signed membership running into four figures.

At first the meetings at street corners were noisy, rowdy and violent, the opposition coming largely from local communists who saw the fledgling BUF as a dangerous competitor in securing working class support, and others who objected to the BUF's appeal of 'Britain First' and 'Britain for the British'. In those early days, night after night Black-shirts from NHQ in Chelsea bundled into the old vans and chase to Bethnal Green to help fight off the Red attacks on the meetings after receiving a riot-call. In time this became unnecessary as local enthusiastic support was achieved.

Mick Clarke's debut as a speaker was when a NHQ speaker failed to appear and was 'bullied' to mount the platform. His speech was from a policy leaflet after which he beat a hasty retreat as another speaker became available. He went to be regarded by the Movement, and outside observers, as one of the two best speakers after Mosley. Probably the best speech of his life was during the Munich crisis in September 1938 when at a huge 'Britons Fight for Britain Only' meeting at Hammersmith, he held a 200-yard street to rapt and awesome

attention whilst awaiting Mosley's arrival.

One recalls the roar of the crowd as he quipped in response to the media's Adolf Hitler 'rape of Austria'. "Never has a maiden been raped so easy", or similar.

Mick Clarke became District Leader of North East Bethnal Green and then District Inspector of Bethnal Green. In March 1937, within three years of the Branch's birth, standing as a BU candidate in the LOC 'householders' Election, he achieved 23 per cent of the vote, beating the Liberals into second place. In 1938 he was appointed Propaganda Administrator by Mosley at NHQ, his friend and colleague **Cyril Plaskett** taking over his local duties and continuing the growth of the local movement.

Mick was detained under the 18B Emergency Regulations in 1940 and remained as a British Political Prisoner until September 1944. After the war he spoke once at Ridley Road, Dalston in the early days of Union Movement and again at a street meeting in Derby in the early 1950s but never returned to active politics.

He was one of the many who suffered hardship after the war through the unjust treatment of four years imprisonment without charge or trial. It is not been generally known that just before the war his only child, a son, died within several months of birth, and whilst **Mick** was detained and unable to deal with the problem, his marriage broke up. For some years after the war he great difficulty in securing employment because of his 'past' when unavoidably was made known to future employers. He married again in 1948 and after some years of struggle settled for a more peaceful life than that which had brought hardship to his middle years. And who would blame him?

He finally retired to a peaceful English village during which period he maintained contact with his close friends in British Union, and became a regular reader of **Comrade** as FOM at the same time maintained the secrecy of his whereabouts from those, even with the best of motives, were trying to trace him. One would not wish the inevitable publicity destroying his life for the second time, and in his declining years.

The 'Idol of Bethnal Green'



MICK CLARKE is 'mobbed' by young supporters in Bethnal Green when he was a candidate in the LOC Elections in March 1937

LOOKING BACK

A VERY SPECIAL DAY November 16th. And so it was in 1940, even if **OSWALD MOSLEY** spent it in Brixton Prison.

In honour of The Leader on his Centenary, and in tribute to **MICK CLARKE**, whose death we report in this issue, we publish an edited version of that day from **CHARLIE WATTS's** unpublished manuscript *It Has Happened Here*.

It was **Ascot Concentration Camp** and some 250 Black-shirts who had been imprisoned without trial for six months, had cleaned up and met in P.O.W.7, to celebrate with tea, toast, prunes and custard, OM's 44th birthday. As the tin cans were held aloft to toast 'The Leader', a life-like portrait of O.M. on a blackout board appeared from behind a curtain bringing spontaneous burst of cheering echoing and re-echoing throughout the building....

Mick Clarke followed - quite a bit first. As his voice rose and in biting terms spoke with a force which even the old timers had rarely heard. He said their was only one other person he would rather have to answer the toast and that was the Leader himself. He read the message that had been sent in the form of birthday greetings to Brixton Jail.

"All of your old friends in **Ascot P.O.W.7 Camp** send you their sincere greetings for the 16th.

Our only wish is that your birthday could be celebrated under far different circumstances, but on this day our hearts go out to you, Sir, in friendship, loyalty and in Union.

Though many miles might separate us and circumstances of our detention differ - in spirit we are with you. History will indeed prove that we are as great as any patriots of our day, and with heads held high and chins well up we are firm in the knowledge that everything you

have done in the past with us has been for **BRITAIN** and her greatness.

Greetings - and for the present - Farewell, and may God speed the day of your release."

The storm that followed proved beyond doubt that everyone present felt that their own sentiments had been expressed in this message of loyalty. **MICK CLARKE** then went on to remind us of **MOSLEY**, his leadership and loyalty to the Cause and above all his rigid discipline. "If he can take it - then by God - so can we". "Our greatest Task," he said, "even during detention is to keep ourselves mentally and physically fit for the enormous task that lies ahead of us and every time we feel despondent or feel a desire to revolt against our lot we should just remember...**MOSLEY**. If we are to play our part, either as individuals or as a movement in the creation of a Greater Britain, the criterion of our success would be Loyalty and Discipline. Our Leader has always had and maintained that devoted loyalty to Country, People and Cause, so follow his example Black-shirts, in all things and be in readiness for a great and glorious future" He ended by bringing home to us the Leader's words.

"Together in Britain we have lit a flame that the ages shall not extinguish.
Guard that Sacred Flame my Brother Black-shirts till it illumines the whole of Britain and lights again the paths of mankind."

5

Mosley's old East Enders

Jack Groves

Possibly, at 92, the oldest surviving member of British Union, East London born JACK GROVES, has died.

Hackney born Jack Groves joined the BUF in 1933 and became attached to Central Hackney Branch at Balls Pond Road, Dalston when it was formed in 1935. He was for a time Branch Propaganda Officer and trained to become an NHQ speaker and was a regular speaker at Ridley Road.

In 1937 he was transferred by NHQ to become for a short time District Leader of Walthamstow West Branch. A year later he left Hackney to set up home in Essex and transferred to Epping Branch and continued his active work and speaking with the branch until the government ban on British Union in 1940.

Jack Groves wife, who died a few years ago, was an active Blackshirt, and both parents active supporters who, though no longer young, joined BU marches with enthusiasm. When at Epping Branch he met the young Eric Simpkins who was to be in the London Drum Corps and in Union Movement's Drum Corps after the war. Eric, who died in 1988 married Jack's daughter Pamela who we are pleased to welcome at POM functions keeping up the family loyalty.

At the time of the mass BU arrests in 1940 his home was raided, including the lifting of floorboards, by the police. They confiscated his uniform and left and was then one of those lucky Blackshirts who did not suffer the wartime imprisonment without charge or trial.

During the war, and getting on for 40, he volunteered for the army and navy without success. Work for his trade, bricklayer and general foreman was none existent so he took a degree in construction at a technical college. He then worked on building Mosquitos in an aircraft factory then became a builder in bomb damage work until the end of the war.

1946 saw him trying fields anew and as civil engineer worked in construction for Anglo-Iranian Oil where he was in charge of building two pavilions in Iran's 1951 Exhibition, and for Taylor Woodrow in Nigeria for 20 years. Returning to England in the 1960s he became Chief Clerk of Works for the City of London and also for

Reading University, retiring at 76! For over 20 years he and Mrs Groves had a second 'home' in Spain, taking up permanent residence in 1988.

"Although my parents remained abroad for many years their beliefs remained strong" daughter Pam told us. "They kept up with the news through Comrade which they shared with friends and neighbours. They had a very rich fulfilling life and always kept their beliefs in the principles of O.M."

Indeed they did. Interviewed in his late 80s, Jack Groves gave vent to his unshakeable loyalties.

"When I joined Mosley in 1933" he said, "conditions were for many in East London little better, if at all, like mine in 1929 when I was starving and daily spending from 7 until 7 looking for work. The Labour Party which projected the image of the worker's party seemed to be more interested in Russia than the British working man and with the Communists, and you could often see little difference, they scoffed at the Union Jack and glorified the Red Flag."

With the coming of the BUF, many of my friends and I heard what they had to say and saw they were the only honest patriotic party in politics. Mosley and his men told us exactly what they were going to do, no other party ever did that. We had nothing better than this. It will be a good thing and at least we will have leadership, not this fraud we call democracy"

'We marched in full uniform...and at five minutes to twelve changed into mufti and handed over our blackshirts to the priest'

So Jack Groves commitment was total and he was very proud of his uniform, which was banned by the government on January 1 1937 and about which he told of how "on New Years Eve many of our lads marched in full uniform to Midnight Mass and at five minutes to twelve changed into mufti and handed over our blackshirts to the priest". One wonders what ultimately happened to them.

"After that", he said, "more working class people were joining by 1938-39, the war being a tragedy not only for British Union but for Britain. All those politico-

Dickie Burwood

"I am not as sprightly as I was. I would give my right arm to be at Mosley's side today. He was THE GREATEST. I would have died for him" said Bethnal Green's 'battler' DICKIE BURWOOD on his 80th birthday on his reunion with old comrades shortly after the birth of "COMRADE".

Sadly, as we go to press we have to report the death of our old comrade, who was still in his beloved Bethnal Green - "but now foreign territory" as he had recently put it - in his 91st year. Several old comrades, 'youngsters' in Dickie's heyday, paid their respect at his funeral.

Dickie's father was killed in the first World War and as the eldest of a large family of young children bore the brunt, with his widowed mother, of the hard battle of survival which was the lot of many in East London between the wars, their plight considered insoluble by the old gang political parties.

Despite the feeling of being left to rot by the democratic system, the mass of the British people in London's East End remained intensely patriotic, and it is no wonder that in the 1930s they were drawn to Mosley's British Union. Dickie was no exception but it was the catalyst of the 'Battle of Cable Street' in October 1936, which East Enders saw the organised violence to prevent them hearing what Mosley had to say, as an attack on their own patriotic culture by alien elements. He, and thousands like him, immediately joined British Union.

Dickie's commitment was total although he, and many like him never actually signed membership forms. They became dedicated for a lifetime and latter day researchers into the strength of British Union in the East End should consider this in their analysis of the Mosley story.

With the birth of the Mosley Book Clubs after the war, and



At his side, Dickie Burwood with O.M. on Union Movement's first march in 1948

Union Movement in 1948, Dickie threw himself into the battle of the streets, which in effect was the defence of Mosley and his Movement against the organised attacks of that Mafia-like group known as the 43 Group who specialised in the planned roving of London's streets in motorcades to fall on and beat up lone or small groups of sellers of Mosley's paper, or indeed anywhere where there were Union Movement activities, providing those participating were heavily outnumbered.

'The 43 Group, whose sideline was the recruiting for the Jewish terrorists in Palestine...'

In around a 3-year battle of attrition, Dickie was at the forefront of those who countered this violence and by 1949 the 43 Group, whose sideline was the recruiting for the Jewish terrorists who were murdering British soldiers in Palestine, and some 'protection' of small Jewish tradesmen against non-existing threat for financial reward, had lost the taste for 'driving the fascists off the streets', and as 'enrolment had slowed down' they 'disbanded'. Their final demise came in June 1950 when, according to the Jewish Chronicle, the Jewish ALEX and Organised Jewry were responsible for them being wound up.

Later, when violence again erupted in 1962, Dickie, though then 56, threw his battle-scarred body on top of Mosley to protect him after going down

Turn to Page 7

ians, stumbling all the time over our own British problems got themselves into a war which lost us everything - destroyed at one go. As for Churchill, determined to have his war, what a disastrous politician he was, everything he had tried he has destroyed.

And today, having lost everything which previous generations built, our political system with its politicians which they call democracy, and which is no good at all, has one attribute in which they excel, 'political correctness' which effectively is the

people of Britain abused by their own Government.

I and my comrades didn't join British Union to get anything out of it, but to support Mosley in his attempt to do great things for England. In age I have not changed. Once a Black-shirt you can never change. Its in the blood.

And Mosley, who always spoke without pieces of paper, straight from heart and brain leaving one wishing he would go on for ever.

He was the GREATEST Englishman who ever lived."

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Mosley's East Enders

Continued from Page 6

Dick Sayer

One of two early active members of British Union's Central Hackney Branch in Balls Pond Road, Dalston, who has sadly died, DICK SAYER, in his 89th year, joined in 1934 when he was licensee of Jacob Wells public house in Bishopegate until starting a furniture business in Bow in 1936.

With the outbreak of war his business collapsed and he became an insurance agent until 1948 he again became a publican in Devon, remaining a Licensee until his retirement, and the loss of his wife when he moved to Somerset.

In British Union days, Dick Sayer got himself in all activities where these would not conflict with his professional life, and during the war took an active part with George Dunlop raising donations for the 18B British Detainees Fund.

With the end of the war he was involved again with George Dunlop in founding the short-lived "Independent Nationalists". After an interview with O.M. and learning of the probability that he would return to active politics, the new organisation was disbanded.

Dick Sayer lived alone for his last 23 years, reliving again and again his days with Hackney comrades in British Union. "I would not have changed a thing" he said shortly before his death. His loyalty to Oswald Mosley unquestionable.

Dickie Burwood

Continued from Page 6

under a hail of blows when arriving at a meeting at Ridley Road, Dalston.

The years rolled on and it was 5 years ago that Dickie faced his hardest and last battle. He lost his Mary, his partner for 62 years. As always, he took it on the chin and survived his declining years with his memories, of Mary, of Mosley, of his comrades in British Union, in Union Movement, in Friends of O.M., to whom he regularly donated from his meagre income, all of whom he loved.

We who still survive linger on by the example set, and our love of Oswald Mosley. We are also sustained by the example of loyalty, courage, and warmth of Dickie Burwood, and it is also in our love that we offer this final testament.

IN MEMORIAM

"Hark! the sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages.
Britain listens and rejoices,
Gazing on Tradition's pages..."

<u>BEVAN, Charles</u> : Founder member West Ham (Upton) British Union Branch.	November 1938
<u>BURWOOD, Mary</u> : wife of Br. Union and Un. Movement's Dicky Burwood of Bethnal Green.	24 November 1991
<u>DICK, Colin Pomeroy</u> : Br. Union businessman NEQ Branch: 18B British Political Prisoner: arrested on return from Dunkirk 1940 after rescuing some 500 troops in his machine-gunned motor launch <u>Advance</u> : 22 November 1953	
<u>GOWING, Horace</u> : Derby Br. Union: 18B British Political Prisoner: on release wartime founder <u>Sons of St. George</u> : Union Movement: at 30 from TB contracted in <u>Walton Jail</u> and <u>Ascutt Concentration Camp</u> .	November 1949
<u>HARRY SMITH, Mrs F.M.</u> : nearly member Leicester StH British Union: founder of <u>Poor School Mission</u> : at 87	November 1936
<u>MAIN, Miss Christian</u> : Lochinhead, Perth Br. Un. & U. Movement: November 1965	
<u>MANICO, Dorothy</u> : Wom D/Ldr Chichester British Union: wife of D/Ldr Capt. F.E. Manico.	12 November 1949
<u>MARENDAZ, Captain D.M.E.</u> : NEQ Br. British Union & mbr. BUF Automobile Club: RE: spotter first tank battle Cambrai WWI: propr. flying train, school: 18B British Political Prisoner: at 91.	6 November 1988
<u>MENDELHAM, F.W. "Freddie"</u> : Br. Union D/Lr Hackney: 18B British Political Prisoner: Union Movement: Organiser Hackney South.	November 1960
<u>MORRIS, John</u> : Manchester Branch British Union	November 1936
<u>O'DONOGHAN, Rose</u> : wife of old comrade PAT, Shoreditch British Union and South London Union Movement.	27 November 1986
<u>PACKER, Charlie</u> : Un. M accountant 1948-85: Mayor of Bexley 1978-9.	27 November 1985
<u>PARSONS, H.J.</u> : Aldershot Br. Union: 18B Political Prisoner: Union Movement.	19 November 1976
<u>FRATT, Thomas Wilson</u> : oldest Wilts Blackshirt: friend of CM's father and grandfather.	2 November 1936
<u>RING, Margaret</u> : mother of Ilford A/D/L and UM's Eddy.	5 November 1938
<u>TAYLOR, Edward</u> : Folkestone British Union	11 November 1936
<u>VEALE, F.J.P.</u> : solicitor mbr. Brighton Br. British Union & Union Movement: Action & Union contributor: author of <u>Advance to Barbarism & Crimes Discreetly Veiled</u> .	27 November 1976
<u>WOOSTER, Dennis</u> : Maidenhead British Union: in m/car acc.	16 November 1934

WHAT KIND OF MAN WAS MOSLEY?

BY GORDON BECKWELL

"What kind of man was sir Oswald Mosley" I was asked by an interested observer of Mosley's life story, and who knew of my association with Friends of O.M. To answer his question I decided to record only my personal experiences.

I first saw him and heard him speak in London's Trafalgar Square in 1960 when I was 17. I cannot recall how I came to be there except it wasn't by chance. The entire Square was filled with people. Many thousands, though not all were supporters.

Suddenly, onto the plinth of Nelson's Column bounced this energetic 64-year old man in a grey double-breasted suit with a flashing smile. He spoke for an hour without notes or hesitation on the political crisis facing Britain and Europe. The issues were complex but his oratorical brilliance kept the whole audience rivetted. His central theme was his vision of a United Europe that would become so advanced and powerful, so wealthy and beneficial that it would surpass the achievements of both the Roman and British Empires. At the end of his speech, he took his place at the head of a marching column and was surrounded by crowds giving him the open-

handed outstretched arm Roman salute. I couldn't this was happening in post-war London, and then realised my arm was raised too.

Mosley's ideas and character left a deep impression on my own thinking and development. He was as much a philosopher as a politician and considered his greatest contribution to human thought was his Doctrine of Higher Forms. This defines the purpose of life as constant self-improvement brought about mainly by adversity and is in keeping with religious beliefs.

He was certainly a Man's Man. Once when an official of the early Blackshirt Movement insulted him, Mosley knocked him out with a single blow. The man after-wards became one of his most loyal followers. On a march on another occasion, a Red threw a brick which hit a Blackshirt woman in the face. Mosley saw who did it and left the column, running straight into a large Red mob where he gave the brickthrower a lesson in manners. Out-numbered ten-to-one, Mosley's 'Special Detachment' rescued him with difficulty. Such was the philosopher who could write the Doctrine of Higher Forms. No wonder so many young people look to his ideas and example today for inspiration.

Old Comrades



LATE NEWS

THE FOM CENTENARY DINNER

WE apologize to late applicants who we were unable to accommodate at the Dinner on O.M.'s Birthday, November 16

OBITUARIES

WE REGRET to report the following deaths.

JIM NICHOLSON, 82, who joined British Union the week after the Olympia meeting in 1934. He had gone with a group of ILP-ers and Reds to cause trouble but when seeing what was happening and hearing CM he said to himself, "I'm in the wrong lot" and signed up.

'Nick', East London born, joined Battersea Branch and became an active member. Although little over five feet he was useful in certain areas. Among other work skills he had been an 'all-in-wrestler'!

After army service in the war he joined Union Movement. After a 'rowing' life he and his old Battersea comrade, the editor, accidentally met earlier this year and he joined FOM's list, and if he had lived probably have been at the Centenary Dinner.

On October 1st., Mrs ENID BENTINCK-BUDD, widow of staunch Blackshirt and BU Parliamentary Candidate Captain Charles Bentinck-Budd, Roy. Engineers (ret'd).

When the Leader died we all felt robbed. After all, he was still in his prime - only 84 years old! We thought he would go on for ever but as he used to tell us, "Just when you gain a little wisdom it's time to die". He had a terrific sense of humour, even in the 1930s when he felt the need to protect a greater degree of gravitas.

On his death, the Editor of "Action" wrote:

"The world will not see his light again in many a long year. He had brains, guts and an infinite capacity to charm".

And that's how I will always think of him.

1896

November 16th

1996

O.M.



English and European Patriot, Revolutionary, Leader of Men

'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'

Published by John Christian for F.O.M., 101, Orwell Court, Pownall Road, London, E8 4PP

COMRADE

Incorporating ACTION and UNION

Newsletter of Friends of O.M.



No 48

Union Movement Anniversary Issue

7th February 1998

'My life striving in the politics of Britain made known my name and character : my voice can now reach beyond the confines of one country, because it has been heard before. The past has imposed the duty of the future : I must do this thing because no other can.'

Sir Oswald Mosley, 7th July 1947.

THE VISION SPLENDID

**'Their call the first, their faith the truest,
their concept the most complete'**

Union Movement was launched 50 years ago today, and in this anniversary issue Comrade salutes its proud record, and the men and women who followed Oswald Mosley in his post-war campaign to win a great destiny for Britain in the Union of Europe.

It was a campaign born in the aftermath of a war near-ruinous for Britain and a limitless disaster for pre-war British Union.

BY PAUL COLLINS

The only true victory is success of course, and for all its courage and prescience, Union Movement fought in vain. Just as the war extinguished the otherwise unstoppable advance of British Union, so Union Movement was ultimately balked by the legacy of anti-Mosley wartime propaganda and post-war prosperity.

But what a record, and what might have been ! As our fellow Britons look about them at a nation in the process of disintegration, economic, social, ethical, and racial, the policies and record of Union Movement show what should have been averted, and what could have been achieved.

Union Movement would have :

Secured for Britain the

leadership of European union in association with our great Dominions. It would have been - in real, as distinct from the Blairist interpretation - a People's Europe, true to its great heritage, and advancing all in a prosperous and socially just system protected from global trade chaos and finance speculation.



Prevented the ever growing nightmare of "multi-ethnic / multi-culture" Britain. Union Movement was the first to oppose coloured immigration, and continued to advance a firm but decent and humane solution in the teeth of every obstruction, incitement and calumny

F.O.M. COMMEMORATIVE DINNER

Well over a hundred friends of Mosley met in London to commemorate to the day the hundredth anniversary of Sir Oswald Mosley's birth. After introductions by Mike Quill, Ronald Creasy proposed the toast. Lady Mosley who had especially travelled from Paris responded by thanking everyone for their continued support of Mosley and his policies on Europe a Nation.



LADY MOSLEY FLANKED BY CREASY AND HARMSTON

Personal and short ! speeches followed by Bob Row, Martin Moloney, Dan Harmston and Bob Wilkinson. Apologies to the many disappointed friends who were unable to attend due to a massive over subscription for available tickets.

from the political establishment and its agit-prop dress on the criminalised fringe. When Mosley stood at North Kensington in the 1959 election, there were an estimated 180,000 people



MOSLEY SPEAKING AT THE INAUGURAL MEETING

Yet undeterred, and alone in recognising the terminal condition of Empire resulting from that war, Mosley and Union Movement proclaimed the cause of European Union. Their call was the first, their faith the truest, their concept the most complete.

TESTIMONY OF FAITH

In over 60 years Bob Row has never deviated from his faith in Mosley's policy's. After becoming a active member of the B.U.F. in 1934. He was later arrested and held without charge or trial under the infamous Regulation 18B. After the war he joined the headquarters staff of **Union Movement**. Author of the seminal pamphlet *The Coloured Question in Britain : Cause and Solution* He regularly contributed to the *European* and *Nation Europa* and went on to edit the journals *Union* and *Action* that ran until November 1992 when both were incorporated into **Comrade**.

By Robert Row

This year, 1998, is looking distinctly rocky for Mr Blair and Britain's prize collection of political geriatrics he re-named the "New" Labour Party. "New" is a word of which he is over-fond.

We have been here before, however. In May 1929, Labour won another general election and formed a government led by Ramsay MacDonald. He became detested for running Britain the way the Tories had done. Then last May, Labour repeated the performance, winning another election followed by yet another Tory-type government. To complete the coincidence sleaze keeps breaking out in Labour ranks. What is new about all this, Mr Blair?

Coincidence goes still further. Within months of taking office in 1929, Labour faced a grave economic crisis when the huge speculative boom on Wall Street, New York, crashed in October, heralding the depression of the 1930's. And now in 1998, another grave crisis faces another fresh Labour government, coming from the East this time and not the West. Former "tiger economies" threaten Britain with cut-throat competition as they are forced to deflate or go under. Inflation is not the problem it was. It's deflation from now on.

But again, what's new? Deflation was the order of the day in the 1930's, and it meant collapsing prices, bloodthirsty competition, unemployment by the

millions. And Blair will just be as hapless in dealing with it as John Major would have been.

Such was the background to my early political life. I left school during the sterling crisis of 1931 when Britain was driven ignominiously off the Gold Standard. Half the shops in the local streets were boarded-up, out of business. I got a job at a derisive wage, then lost the job and saw it taken at even less pay. The times were desperate, and after more of the same I joined the **Blackshirts** in 1934. So did many other Englishmen.

CONGRATULATIONS.

I want to congratulate you sincerely on the *Blackshirt*. I have only taken it for the last seven weeks—the length of time that I have been in the Movement—but it has certainly served as an eye-opener as to the activities our fellow-Fascists are engaged in. It has also shown me that Fascism is fighting a winning battle, and not such a close battle either! Like the Movement itself, it has been founded without money, which is more than these gutter-press rags can boast of. May it go forward until it can appear as a daily newspaper and it has a circulation of millions.

R. ROW.

Lancaster.

SEVEN WEEKS AFTER JOINING THE BUF BOB ROW WRITES A LETTER TO THE *BLACKSHIRT* 24TH AUGUST 1934.

There were several reasons for this, and none of them included the passion for marching round the town in jackboots alleged by our enemies. Mosley's slogan was "Britain First", the highest expression of British patriotism while also the essential economic policy which would banish the slump. Mosley stood

for a government of action to turn the British Empire into a great source of materials for British industry and a great market for British goods and jobs. Simultaneously the Mosley Movement, given power by the people's vote, would release national energies, scrap red tape, sweep away outdated things, unite the British people as they always united in wartime but this time to solve the problem of peace.

Peace soon became a vital issue for the Mosley Movement as the 1930s darkened with clouds of war. From the very first, as an ex-soldier and airman in 1918, he had gone into politics with two clear missions. Firstly to build "the land fit for heroes": that pledge had been betrayed, one reason why he went fascist. Secondly his purpose was to ensure another British generation was not sacrificed in another world war as his own generation had been.

This did not mean the Mosley Movement was Pacifist. Far from it, the great majority of older members had served in 1914 in the British armed forces or the services of the Empire. From the earliest days of the Movement in 1932 Mosley advocated that the defence of Britain and the Empire lands be thoroughly modernised by land, sea and in the air. But



he solidly opposed his country being embroiled in any more foreign quarrels, addressing mass meetings and hammering out the slogans of 1938 and 1939: "Mind Britain's Business", "Keep Out of All Foreign Quarrels", "Britons Fight For Britain Only".

And when, despite long striving for peace, his country was involved in an unnecessary war in 1939 which reduced Great Britain to island status and lost us the British Empire, Mosley faced the question, what next? He met it with the same directness as in all decisions. When war came in 1939 he circulated all members. The great majority due to be called up for national service were instructed to obey orders and the rules of their services no matter how much they opposed the war, and he called upon those not called up to join him in campaigning for a negotiated peace with honour. A peace with no British territory lost.

The government replied to Mosley's call for peace by locking him and hundreds of his followers up for years in Churchill's concentration camps. There was no charge or trial. Banana republic justice replaced these. Trial by jury was scrapped. So was Habeas Corpus. So much for the honour of British politicians.

Thus when Mosley and his comrades emerged from imprisonment a different world was taking shape, which needed new solutions, and he called for the political union of Europe for three main reasons. Firstly, to give Englishmen a field for great action to replace the British Empire. Secondly, to unite Europe so closely as a nation that Europeans would not fight each other again, except in sport. And thirdly, to create a political idea higher than communism or capitalism, greater than the effect of Russia or America.

good.

Facing this united front of the poisonous and the two faced was the movement - *contra mundum* - always short of resources but animated by the Mosley spirit. The staff at headquarters knew the meaning of sacrifice and in some cases danger.

Alexander Raven Thomson belonged to the old guard, a veteran of the early days. He was both a thinker in the Spenglerian tradition and an editor of Mosleyite journals. Disillusioned as a communist in 1933, he turned to Mosley and became a leading scourge of the Marxist creed. But he never lost the common



MOSLEY BEING INTERVIEWED FOR AMERICAN TELEVISION 10TH MARCH 1954 BOB ROW (RIGHT) LISTENS INTENTLY

When Oswald Mosley founded the Union Movement in 1948 the opposition was at its most malignant. The result was the 'fifth column' lie lived on, though for eight years no British government had produced the slightest evidence that a fifth column ever existed in Britain - unless it was communist. Fleet Street and the BBC claimed they stood for free speech while always denying free speech to the Mosleyites. The political establishment was rigged to exclude Mosley and all who followed him. And the younger generations were always reminded that joining Union Movement would do their careers no

touch, propagating ideas to the crowd at street meetings serving the cause to the end of his life.

George Sutton was another longstanding adherent, sacrificing a well-paid post with the League of Nations Union in the 1920's to become Mosley's personal secretary. Mosley was then rising to prominence in the Labour Party, and Sutton was with him throughout Labour's triumph and collapse in 1929/31. The New Party, BUF, wartime detention under 18B and post-war Union Movement were to follow, truly a record of outstanding service.

PIRACY ON THE HOME FRONT

Question : What has Levi, Reebok and Calvin Klein in common with F.O.M. Answer : Forgery. High profile objects of desire such as 501's, trainers and perfume have for a long time been subjected to counterfeiting in the sweatshops of Bradford, Brick Lane and Birmingham. We can now add to this list fake copies of F.O.M. released sound cassettes manufactured by as yet unknown



FAKE COPY



GENUINE F.O.M. RELEASE

persons. From the beginning of Union Movement there was a deliberate policy of recording meetings, dinners and interviews by the Leader. In fact it can be proudly claimed that this forward thinking organisation was the first political party to use the then revolutionary tape recorder. Mosley's speeches were originally issued direct cut on 78 R.P.M shellac discs later superseded by pressed vinyl and eventually sound cassette which had the advantage of matching supply with demand. We report with disgust that our latest release MOSLEY'S MEN, which has proved to be such a great success has been hijacked with illicit copies being issued without permission. The counterfeit tape poorly reproduces the fifteen speeches and even introduces a copyright picture of Mosley on the cover. Not suprisingly this forgery does not give a publishers name and address. The only genuine release of MOSLEY'S MEN is obtainable from F.O.M. anything else is questionable and certainly does not help the cause of furthering the ideas of Mosley.

Then there was Hector McKechnie, a former British Consul in South America, and Maurice Pacey, one of the pre-war NHQ personal who was the first secretary of Union Movement. He was succeeded by Jeffrey Hamm, credited as the man who began the Mosleyite revival in the London of the immediate post-war years, as well as one of its best-known speakers.

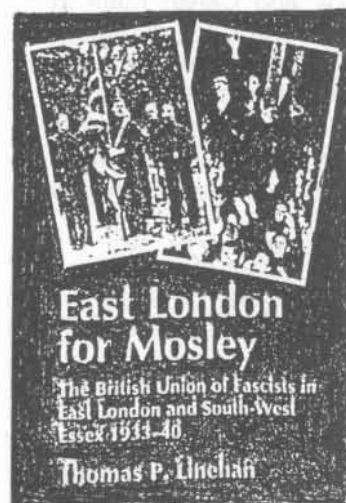
These were men who worked for little pay but produced notable results, let it be remembered that the Mosley Movement was the complete antithesis to the world of the 'little men of the old parties', as Mosley described them in derision and contempt. Mosley finally left behind him a body of vital ideas which are far in advance of most contemporary thinking as time will tell ...

APPEAL

In this commemorative year it is appropriate to make one last effort to locate a lost sound recording. It is known that the inaugural meeting of Union Movement at Wilfred Street, Westminster on 7th February 1948 was recorded. Within days a 12" double sided record was offered for sale at £1.5s (£1.25). It is not known how many copies were sold but sales must have been brisk given the enthusiasm of the time.

The Friends of Mosley now appeal to readers to help find a copy of this historic disc. With Mosley's sound archive recording going back to 1930, locating a copy of this 1948 speech would fill a major gap in our collection. Any information about this matter should be addressed to F.O.M., 101 Orwell Court, Pownall Road, London, E8 4RP.

Book Review

EAST LONDON
FOR MOSLEY

"It is ... the idea of Mosleyite fascism as a revolt against 'impending decay', the members' belief that they were participating in a unique, emotional and aesthetic experience invested with an heroic dimension, a dramatic and noble adventure to save the spiritual soul of England, that we begin to understand the ideological, psychological and motivational characteristics of local membership." - *'East End for Mosley'* by Thomas P. Linehan published by Cass 1996 / ISBN 0-7146-4568-0 cloth (£37.50) or 0-7146-4268-1 paper (£19.50).

When Robert Skidelsky wrote Mosley's biography 20 years ago, he stated that one day somebody would write the definitive history of the Blackshirt Movement in East London. The first contender for this title has appeared: the result of 10 years' intensive research. The author, Thomas Linehan, has delved deep, discovering new primary sources and studying a sample of 311 East London and south-west Essex Blackshirts in the process. Those who marched with Mosley will find much in his book to agree with - and much to disagree with too.

Even before the book is opened, it demolishes the Leftish myth that the Battle of Cable Street stopped Mosley's progress. The write-up on the back refers to an enthusiastic mass East End audience listening to Mosley at Salmon Lane, Limehouse, ten days after Cable Street whilst a front cover photo of the event leaves no room for doubt. Inside, the author describes how in 3 weeks following the Battle, British Union ranks were swelled by 2000 new recruits in East London - 800 in Limehouse alone. A year later, a Special Branch agent inspected the membership book of Limehouse branch (presumably long after the premises were locked up for the night) and found

1,700 names. And there were still 2 more years of recruiting to go.

As the title of the book suggests, the author acknowledges that British Union won the minds of a large section of East Enders and their sympathies remained solid right up to 1940. Charts are included that indicate the huge growth in membership year by year. The exact epicentre of this support is even identified as Duckett Street in Stepney where 95% of the residents were believed to be Blackshirt families. The author even faithfully records many of their names and door numbers for posterity!

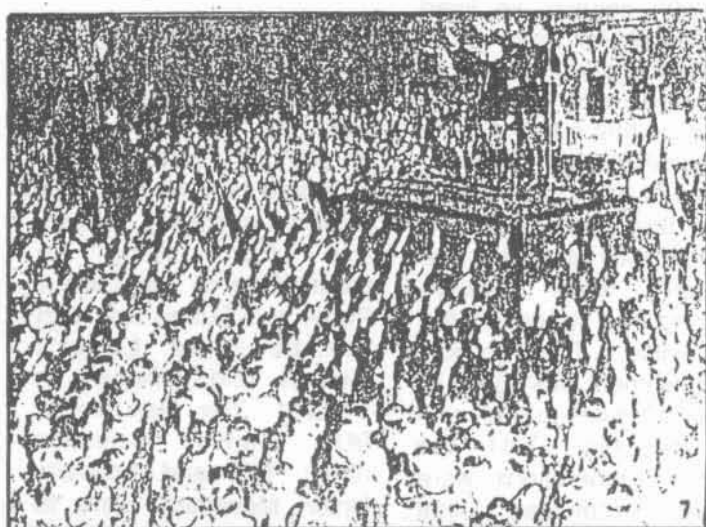
In neighbouring Bethnal Green it was the same story with local membership well into four figures and local shopkeepers anxious to display their Blackshirt loyalty as a sure way to boost their trade among local people. A former District Leader recalls that he could call out onto the streets at least 100 fully uniformed members at any time - even if it meant that they would lose a day's work.

The book also recognises the idealism that motivated East Londoners to join: against War, against Capitalism and for a People's State of better

conditions that the Corporate State would bring. Referring to British Union's ideas for economic reform, the author recognises that a "strong radical or socialist current ran through its industrial policy which probably appealed to many east London workers." It is also recorded that "with the large number of ex-servicemen in its ranks, the BUF maintained a principled opposition to the ethos of war throughout its political existence. The BUF's genuine revulsion against war, and hostility towards the idea of war as an instrument of foreign policy, tended to distinguish it from many continental fascist movements." And democratic governments too, one might add.

But before long our credibility comes under strain. Does Mr. Linehan really believe that a large number of the Blackshirt converts were deserters from the disintegrating East London Liberal Party - even though one of the most influential recruits was the former Liberal Mayor of Bethnal Green? More importantly, the book puts forward the theory that in the last two years before the War, the movement's growth in Bethnal Green and Limehouse stalled. Instead, it is suggested, Central Hackney had displaced these branches as the principle area of British Union support: signing up over 3000 members of whom 400 were active.

It seems that these days academic writers, like journalists, must have their 'scoop' if they are to make their way in the world. It very soon becomes apparent that the theory of the previous paragraph plays an important part in Mr Linehan's master plan of post-rationalism. It is suggested that the alleged flagging fortunes of Bethnal Green and Limehouse were due to their comparative lack of interest in pushing the Jewish question (ie: there was "no evidence of overt anti-semitism within the district leadership of Limehouse branch") while



MOSLEY HOLDS A MEETING AT SALMON LANE IN THE EAST END 10 DAYS AFTER CABLE STREET.

"They would follow Mosley through fire and water ... and they were a pretty tough crowd in the East End in those days, as you can guess. Every now and then a Leader of men is born and Mosley was one." *Former BU Womens Leader for Limehouse.*

in Central Hackney the question was supposedly persued with more vigour. In other words, it's the same old gramophone record: that the Mosley Movement only did well where it whipped up racial antagonism.

It is in fact that during the second half of the 1930's, British Union was involved in a deep quarrel with certain Jewish interests on specific issues. These issues are described in detail in the book. Although Sir Oswald Mosley was never one to be over concerned by what names his opponents called him, he always claimed that he was not anti-semitic. He never attacked all Jews for what they were, only some Jews for what they did. The book's author seems to be saying as much when he writes "the repudiation of crude racial-biological forms of categorisation enabled Mosley and British Union to reject racial antisemitism." Anybody who studies Mosley's writings and speeches from this period will note that he always keeps a sense of proportion: the subject would take up half a minute of an hour long speech or a few pages of a major book such as 'Tomorrow We Live' (1938). The Movements speakers were also instructed not to give undue emphasis to this subject. It is advice that Mr. Linehan could well have paid heed to.

Using Special Branch estimates, the book also traces how the London membership increased from 2200 in January 1936 to 5800 in January 1938 to 7200 in February 1939. But the claim is made that these gains were entirely in

the East End and that in other parts of London the membership was in sharp decline after 1935. This, of course, is to support the author's theory that British Union only gained ground in areas where race was an issue.

The question has to be asked: How does Mr. Linehan know what the membership of British Union was in London outside the East End? How can he say with such certainty that in the rest of London membership was in steep decline? Because Mr. Linehan has never at any time seen a complete set of branch membership records for any London district. I have in front of me as I write the membership records for the Ealing branch of British Union: a district in west London far from the East End. They show that from 1936, when there were over 200 members, there were very few resignations or lapsed memberships. The number of new members recruited were as follows: 1936 - 21; 1937 - 29; 1938 - 40; 1939 - 83. So the only London branch that we have records for shows not a sharp decline, as Mr Linehan claims to support his theory, but a very steady and continuing increase.

It is because of the author's attempt to create and support an untenable central theory that his book must be judged a flawed work. But in between it gives an interesting and unique backward look as pre-War life in the Blackshirt stronghold of East London.

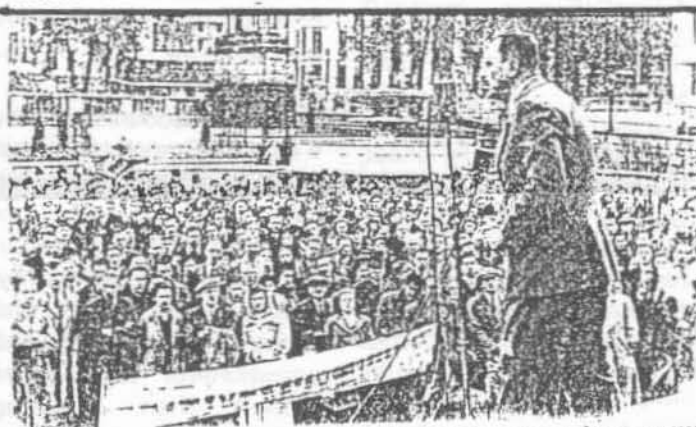
Gordon Beckwell



One of the strengths of Union Movement was **The European**, published monthly from March 1953 to February 1959. This little magazine was also famous for its lively comment on books, plays, films and the arts. Edited by Diana Mosley, it attracted leading writers such as Desmond

Stewart, Henry Williamson, Alan Neave, A James Gregor, Richard Aldington, Roy Macgregor Hastie and Ezra Pound. Apart from feature articles Oswald Mosley also contributed a monthly political analysis under the pseudonym 'European'.

Its undoubted strength of literary content managed to break through the normally insular distribution network. A refreshing change to pick up a copy from your local newsagent or Smiths station bookstall. Its eventual incorporation into the weekly Action newspaper came about as resources needed to be refocussed on Mosley's candidature at North Kensington in the 1959 General Election.



THE LEADER SPEAKS IN TRAFALGAR SQUARE 8TH OCTOBER 1950. THE FIRST OF MANY SUCH MEETINGS ON BEHALF OF UNION MOVEMENT.



MOSLEY SPEAKS IN CLYESDALE ROAD 25TH AUGUST 1959 DURING HIS NORTH KENSINGTON ELECTION CAMPAIGN



"IN SPIRIT I AM WITH YOU, ALWAYS"

Oswald Mosley 25th June 1938.

Facts V 'Pork Pies'

Oswald Mosley, according to Brian Moynahan in his 'The British Century' (Weidenfeld) "returned from voluntary exile in France in 1958 to stand as an MP in North Kensington in the name of the 'British Movement', a rival of the National Front."

Mosley of course stood in the name of **Union Movement**, which he founded ten years earlier, and led ever since, addressing some of the biggest indoor and outdoor meetings in post-war Britain, a remarkable achievement for someone supposedly in exile. The National Front, UM's supposed rival, was founded nine years later.

According to the fly sheet, Moynahan, a former Sunday Times journalist, "received his training as an historian at Cambridge's Corpus Christi." Either Moynahan or Corpus Christi should be asking for their money back. Perhaps not surprisingly, 'The British Century' is on sale at a substantially reduced price. Not to be outdone, the 'Guinness Book of the 20th Century' has a 1936 entry under the heading "Blackshirts and reds slug it out in London." Yes, its that hoary old legend, The Battle of Cable Street. Guinness then lays on some of its own froth when it says that a week later "Mosley's men returned in the so-called 'Mile End pogrom' when they beat up Jews on the street and

smashed windows of businesses that they suspected were owned by Jews."

The facts (which we repeat with a yawn) are that at "Cable Street" the fighting was between reds and police, and in the weeks that followed, **British Union** "conducted" the most successful series of meetings since the beginning of the movement. In Stepney, Shoreditch, Bethnal Green, Stoke Newington and Limehouse, crowds estimated at several thousands of people (the highest being 12,000) assembled and accorded the speakers an enthusiastic reception; opposition was either non-existent or negligible."

The above quotation is from a Special Branch report (ref 2/3043) There was no "Mile End pogrom." As Robert Skidelsky noted in his biography of Mosley, "there is no doubt that some local Jewish communists were more violent than anything produced by the East London or any other branch of **British fascism**." Guinness may be good for you, but its 20th Century History should carry a mental health warning.

1 THE VISION SPLENDID

of Afro-Caribbean and Asian origin in Britain. Now they are numbered in millions, and the indigenous British are daily being brainwashed and cowed

into surrendering their identity and heritage in the cause of a New and rootless Rainbow Island. Thirty and forty years after being told they had to accept mass immigration, the British are now being lectured that they must lump the consequences.

Union Movement economic policy would have created a Third Way between **Marxist socialism** and chaotic capitalism, between state incompetence and private greed. Socially it would have united individual effort and personal responsibility with service for others and identification with all our people.

The Objects of British Union survived in Union Movement; "Poverty shall be abolished, and All shall work thus enrich their country and themselves. The barriers of Class shall be destroyed and the energies of every citizen devoted to the service of the British nation."

Union Movement would have housed the people in a great drive of constructive energy and imagination. No cardboard cities, soul-less estates or bleak high rise blocks. Here is a report of Mosley speaking in 1955: "He would clear whole slum areas, laying them flat while the people were housed elsewhere in temporary accommodation. When the areas were rebuilt, the people would come back to familiar but modern surroundings, and another area would be dealt with.

"At the same time there were many good and serviceable houses, only needing modernising, but which the old politicians pulled down to make way for jerry-built flats"

Look at East London and other areas of our great cities today, whole communities dispersed or abandoned along with the human values of neighbourliness that was their strength. And then ponder the alternative advanced by Mosley and Union Movement!

In Africa, a British and European policy of economic leadership and partnership, directed through a sub-Sahara division two thirds Black ruled, and one third white, would have brought stability and advancement to all the diverse peoples of that continent. Instead Black Africa has collapsed in poverty, genocide and corruption, to which nice prosperous and orderly (if imperfect) White-run nations, betrayed by the west, are quickly succumbing.

As British and Europe sink towards economic, social and racial collapse - these last two conditions are already evident in Britain - the legacy and example of Oswald Mosley, Union Movement, and those who fought and fight for The Great Cause, will inspire the counter forces of a new renaissance.

COMRADE

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BRITONS UNITE IN UNION MOVEMENT



Joan Warburton 1914 - 1997



The forest of bright yellow Daffodils beside the church yard glowed golden in the Spring sunshine. Joan would appreciate that, I thought, for she loved nothing more than flowers. That and the conversation of friends. So she came once more to the south London church on the hill where, 55 years ago to the very day, she had married John on the first day of Spring when 'England still was England'.

Joan joined Mosley even before the Blackshirt years. When she was 17 she became a member of his New Party, after hearing about it from her brother who was also a member. Surely, a prosperous Britain and the wealth of Empire were every Briton's birthright? Mosley would see to it that the British would arise and enter their own.

When British Union was formed she was among the first to join considering it 'a much more realistic way of carrying forward New Party ideals. Each served in their own way: for Joan came endless evenings and weekends spent in 'doing the paperwork at the Black House', serving tea and

biscuits, 'cleaning floors at the DHQ', the excitement of Leader's meetings and the danger of the marches. And then came John her perfect comrade and companion for the longest march of all.

After the war of brothers, Joan became a foundation member of Union Movement along with John. In the shabby post-War years of British decline, her home echoed with the gaiety, laughter and serious debate of young and old friends, all of whom quickly acquired a special affection and respect for Joan. In the later years came the students of research, eager for facts, documents and photographs from days long before they were born. And slowly they would realise the smiling lady who brought in the cups of tea and biscuits had been part of things from the very earliest days herself and had been witness to it all. And before they left they would come to know that a real understanding of the past is not only to be found in newspapers and old photographs - but in the quality of people who dared all and endured all that Britain might see better days. Like Joan Warburton.

On one of the many floral tributes that lay in the bright sunshine in the cemetery opposite the church on the hill were written the words: **'She always spoke her mind'**. Indeed she did. And if more people had had Joan's courage and determination to tell other people the truth as they saw it, then it would surely be a different story in Britain today.

Gordon Beckwell

'Inkie' Irvine 1914 - 1997

Born in Bromley, Kent on 16th November 1914 Inkie Irvine joined the B.U.F. at the age of 20 and became an active member in the Canterbury and Herne Bay area. He later moved to Birmingham and in 1937 became District Leader with H.Q. and bookshop in Stafford Street. When the lease came to an end the entrepreneurial Inkie found accommodation not far away in Coleshill Street. Where he established an independently run shop serving teas, sandwiches and sweets - successfully aiming to finance the rest of the building as a bookshop and BU headquarters. Eventually there were six additional premises in the city with Inkie appointed District Inspector.

Arrested under 18B in June 1940 he was imprisoned without charge in Walton Goal, Liverpool later moved to Stafford Prison, the race course at York, Huyton concentration camp and eventually Peel camp, Isle of Man.

After his release from Brixton Prison in December 1941 he was then called up into the Royal Engineers being promoted to Sergeant during his four and a half years of 'unblemished and excellent service'. On demob he became a founder member of Union Movement.

He was responsible for organising a number of meetings and socials often with Mosley as the speaker. In the early 1950's, Inkie together with his wife Louise played host to groups of East End members children on a day out to the seaside.

He remained a loyal supporter and keen reader of Comrade until the end of his life.



INKIE GREETs SIR OSWALD MOSLEY ON A VISIT TO COLCHESTER 10TH JUNE 1950

Fred Hill MBE FRGS 1904 - 1997

Fred Hill joined the BUF in 1932. His father W.H.Hill had been part founder of the Taunton Branch where his wife and both sons wore the Blackshirt. With Fred's background of business studies in New York, Canada, Germany and France he joined headquarters staff in 1933 as advertisement manager, later becoming public relations and business manager for the **Blackshirt** and **Action Newspapers**. Acutely aware of the increasing pressure of the multiples on small shopkeepers led to his writing the pamphlet **'Gainst Trust and Monopoly'**: *Commercial Travellers and Shopkeeper Action*. He was also heavily involved in producing the monthly magazine **'The British Trader'**.



FRED HILL SELLING THE BLACKSHIRT NEWSPAPER 15TH SEPTEMBER 1935

After the war he fully embraced the policy of Europe a Nation and worked to this end by encouraging the youth of many nations to compete in apprenticeship skills. His pioneering work was later honoured by his country

**'And if perchance you see the red of Western skies,
Or feel the cool soft rain,
Or smell the flowers I loved,
Then let your heart beat fast for me,
And I will not be dead.'**

FRIENDS OF MOSLEY



*DECEMBER 1918 : ON THE BRINK OF A LIFETIME IN
POLITICS. HE NEVER FAILED THESE SERVICEMEN*

WE SHALL NEVER FAIL HIM.

COMRADE

Incorporating ACTION and UNION

Newsletter of Friends of OM



No. 49

'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'

May 1998

An investment of 2 million pounds and with an average audience of 3 million the Channel 4 Docu-Drama "MOSLEY" was inevitably going to cause opposition from the many who continue to denigrate the Leader. **Peter Kennedy** charts some of the amazing and amusing incidents sparked off by the announcement and subsequent screening of the series.

MOSLEY

THE ALTERNATIVE DRAMA

"Mosley" the Channel Four drama series proved less interesting than the emergency Alternative Theatre staged around it.

As Maurice Gran and Laurence Marks remarked, in the past other writers have tried to interest television programmers in a series on Mosley. In each case the response had been "thank you but no thank you!" Being Jewish, Gran and Marks had an easier ride. The presumption - understandable perhaps - was that their approach would be as impeccable as their background. The conventional distortions and fabrications would be reinforced, the forces of coercion re-assured, and Mosley put in his place.

When it became clear that Marks and Gran were taking a more independent and principled line, there was flurry of familiar arm-twisting. The first move was to try and get the series stopped. As Henry Morris, vice president of the Association of Jewish Ex-Servicemen told the *Independent*, the drama series (of which he seems have had a privileged pre-viewing) "wasn't enough of a hatchet job on Mosley"

When this failed, what was put in place was an orchestrated campaign of disinformation and vilification. For a while anti-Mosley articles seemed to become as obligatory as the horoscope or weather forecast.

In its way this was a version of the old tactic. From the 'thirties to well into the sixties, the forces of opposition and coercion would manoeuvre to have a public hall or marching route banned to Mosley and his Movement. If this failed, send in the thugs or hoax-call a fire engine! When meeting or march went ahead in triumph, scream "Mosleyite Brutality" With the scheduled date of "Mosley" the drama series approaching, and pressure on Channel 4 having been of no avail, it is easy to picture the scene in the enemy camp. From all the familiar places, the phone calls to national editors and columnists, the leaning of well-used shoulders on



MOSLEY ON THE MARCH 4TH MARCH 1937

proprietors and senior executives, the alerting of the compliant or well-disposed, the instructions passed down the line. For Marks and Gran, it must have been an eye-opening experience.

Lies are all the more effective when mixed in with a little truth, but in Mosley - the Alternative Drama, there was little time for the realities. As Michael Quill shows in his newly published work on Mosley's economic policies, Mosley's thinking was a logical progression, each new phase a development of what had gone before. As a historian has noted, Mosley did not cease being a radical the moment he put on a blackshirt. Quite the reverse in fact.

Writing about Tony Blair, the political journalist Matthew d'Ancona suggested (without the slightest evidence) that the Prime Minister was trying to find a "third way" between far left socialism and capitalism. The first man to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10

HILL STREET BLUE

Since their inception by the MP William Ewart in 1867 over 600 blue plaques have been installed on properties. The criteria for commemorating individuals is

- SITE OF HISTORIC INTEREST
- WORK DESERVING RECOGNITION
- POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO HUMAN WELFARE AND HAPPINESS

One person who fulfills all these requirements and more is Sir Oswald Mosley. He was born on 16th November 1896 at 47, Hill Street, Mayfair.



SITE OF MOSLEY'S BIRTH PLACE

Although this property has been replaced by a mansion block it would be the ideal site for recognising the life work of the leader. Plaques to Lenin, Marx, Dame Clara Butt, even Arthur Lucan (Old Mother Riley) are in place around the capital. The time is now right to raise a commemorative blue plaque on the birthplace of Britain's Greatest 20th Century politician.

THE BLACK ART OF OMMISSION

Headline: ARMY GAVE MOSLEY MARCHING ORDERS OVER INJURED LEG. On Monday 9th February 1998 a story appeared in the Daily Telegraph based on the newly released records of British Army Officers in the first world war. The triple column article accompanied by an even larger photograph of Mosley taken 18 years after the war purported to give a balanced resume of Mosley's war record.

By selective quotes from the 107 page file the impression was given that Mosley had later enhanced his war record for political ends. The journalist, Will Bennett, even attributed the Public Record Office military record specialist, William Spencer, as allegedly saying "his war record hardly reflects the dynamic image that he later tried to portray" Bennett correctly states that "Mosley was a Royal Flying Corps observer, returned to England for six months and after another brief spell of active service again returned for an operation on his injured leg, then stayed away from the trenches for the duration of the war, "Owing to an inability to march" **These facts are correct, but as in most things concerned with Mosley's life, context is equally important.** Mosley was the first to acknowledge that politics was a rough trade and of necessity one took the brickbats as well as the bouquets. However for a

once great newspaper to give space to impugn the war record of a brave man is contemptible.

Officer file WO 339/15781 unreservedly

corroborates the account of life in the air and trenches as published in Mosley's autobiography, MY LIFE. At the age of seventeen he entered the Royal Military College, Sandhurst. Within a year he was gazetted 2nd Lieutenant 16th Lancers. He disembarked at Boulogne on the 24th January 1915 having **volunteered** to join the 6th Squadron of the Royal Flying Corps as an observer. This entailed daily sorties over enemy lines in a flimsy BE2C aircraft with a top speed of eighty miles an hour, well within range of ground fire and without a parachute. On his return to England and determined to gain his wings, he reported to the Flying School at Shoreham in Sussex. He soon gained his pilots certificate but later disaster struck during



a solo flight when a crash landing, due to a sudden change in wind direction drove his legs into the floor of the cockpit. After treatment for an injured right leg and ankle he rejoined his regiment for service in the trenches before his wounds had fully healed from the accident. While conniving to hide his worsening swollen leg. He succumbed to the common ailment of trench-foot brought on by a combination of frostbite and constant standing in mud and water.

His disability eventually reached official ears and he was ordered back to England on 15th February 1916. An operation to save his leg left Mosley with a permanent limp. During his sixteen months sick leave in which he was gazetted to Lieutenant he was medically reclassified from A1 to C3 "fit for home duty only". He completed a teaching spell at Eastbourne Calvary depot, then joined the Ministry of Munitions before moving onto the Foreign Office. By now Mosley had seen the prosecution of war first hand, he was not impressed. Here, indeed, is the clue to his life long opposition to needless war and its terrible consequences. On 21st November 1918 he left the Foreign Office and stood as a prospective parliamentary candidate for Harrow. **He had served a total of 4 years 10 days in the service of his country.** Some fifty years later as Mosley bleakly recalled **"MEMORY IS A PARADE OF DEAD MEN".**

THIRTY YEARS ON STILL GOING STRONG

"THE BEST WRITTEN VOLUME OF MEMOIRS EMANATING FROM MY GENERATION"

Sir Colin Coote

To such acclaim Mosley published his autobiography "MY LIFE" in 1968. Thirty years on it remains in print and continues to be a best seller for new generations who want to know first hand the truth about a man whose honesty and refusal to play the "establishment game" kept him from leading his country. It can still be obtained by ordering from your local bookseller or direct from Friends of Mosley.



Hardback £15.00

Paperback £5.00

Fully Illustrated

All post free.



PILOT CERTIFICATE NUMBER 1293 ISSUED BY THE ROYAL AERO CLUB 2ND JUNE 1915 (COPY : DUE TO ORIGINAL BEING LOST IN A FIRE)

A UNION MOVEMENT LANDMARK

Alarmed by the progress of Union Movement in just a few weeks of existence, Chuter Ede the Labour Government's Home Secretary imposed a ban on Mosley's proposed May Day march through the 'Homelands' of Hackney, Bethnal Green and Shoreditch. On 1st May 1948 a large crowd was gathering in Hertford Road, Dalston to hear Mosley speak when mounted police drove back the greater part of the assembled crowd, then threw a cordon around the entire area. Thousands stranded outside this ring of blue failed to hear or see the Leader. So much for free speech and a gift for hostile papers to report that only a few gathered to hear Mosley.



MOUNTED POLICE UNDER ORDERS FROM THE EXECUTIVE DRIVE SUPPORTERS AWAY FROM THE HERTFORD STREET MEETING.

People then walked to Highbury Corner, outside the banned marching area where the Drum Corps were waiting to lead a long march through Islington, Camden Town and Tufnell Park ending appropriately outside Holloway Jail where Mosley had spent so many wasted years. The day ended in characteristic style with Mosley joining friends for a drink in a East London pub.

MAYDAY 1948 MOSLEY'S FIRST OUTDOOR MEETING AND MARCH

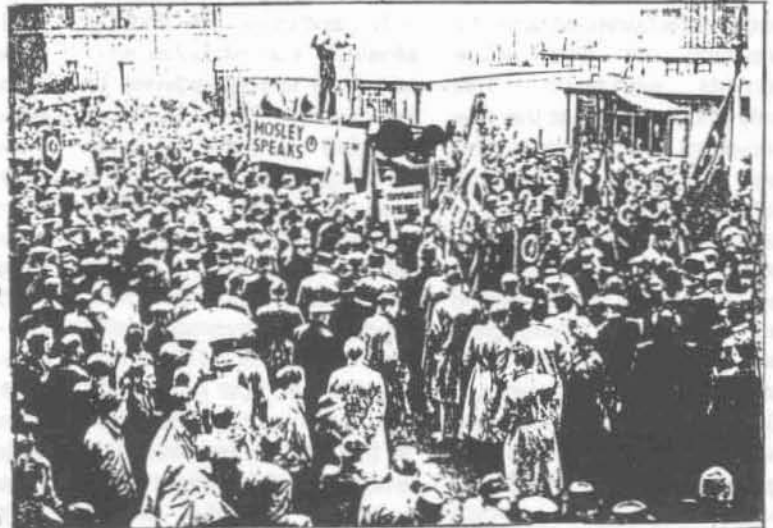
HERTFORD
ROAD

HIGHBURY
CORNER

CAMDEN
TOWN

TUFNELL
PARK

HOLLOWAY



T.V. REVIEW: ANOTHER TITANIC TRAVESTY OF TRUTH

Titanic, the new blockbuster Hollywood movie, is now appearing at a cinema near you. It's good entertainment and it's breaking all box office records worldwide. The only problem is that the few survivors of the Titanic who are still alive, and many relatives of those now dead, consider it a travesty of the truth. Officers who acted bravely are depicted as shooting passengers and men who did their duty are portrayed as cowards. Steerage passengers were not kept behind padlocked gates thus hindering escape. In fact pro-rata more men survived in third class than in second. Also, more sexual activity takes place as the ship is going down than occurs on an entire cruise in these more permissive nineties. No doubt the makers claim all this is justified as dramatic licence. It's the same story with Channel 4's four part TV production 'Mosley'. Despite a spirited performance from Jonathan Cake in the title role, the series failed to capture the character of Mosley or the spirit of the pre-War movement that he led. This is partly due to the programme-makers' determination to depict Mosley as hell-bent on the

conquest of every attractive woman who crosses his path. Good for audience ratings, no doubt. But the only 'authority' for this is Mosley's son Nicholas who acted as special adviser to the series. It is hard to imagine what deep psychological forces drive a son to depict his dead father so on television.

Mosley himself comes across as a shallow thinker, flippant conversationalist and dilettante. The exact opposite of how his friends and enemies remember him at the time. There was little evidence of Mosley's deep intellect, powerful oratory and profound sense of gravitas. Nor his genuine determination to build a better Britain for all our people.

Historical inaccuracies are too numerous to list but some cannot pass unchallenged. At least one titled lady with whom Mosley was supposed to have had a fling simply did not exist. The incident of MP's passing a compromising photo of Mosley round the House of Commons did not happen. No such photo was ever taken. There was one particular scene where Mosley kicks a man on the ground: this would have been anathema to Mosley's personal code and no such

incident occurred. And in another scene, Mosley is depicted as making a long anti-semitic speech of the 'tentacles encircling the globe' type in the paranoid style of Arnold Leese of the Imperial Fascist League. There is no record of Mosley ever using those words when discussing this issue.

However, there were some places where the truth was in danger of breaking through. An indication was given how Mosley was driven by the horrors of the Great War and his determination to avoid the repeat in which 54 million people of all races and nations died. In his audience with Hitler, it becomes clear that Mosley would never be his lapdog. His resignation speech from the Labour Party in the House of Commons captured something of his genuine idealism and eloquence.

And although one colleague wonders why Mosley wears the uniform of a District Officer for the series (the Leader alone wore the uniform with no insignia), the programme makers at least got the number plate of his Bentley right.

But the acid test of the series must surely be



THE LEADER READS A NEW EDITION OF ACTION NEWSPAPER.

this. If Mosley had really been like the character portrayed in this Channel 4 series, would any of us have been motivated to follow him at any stage in the journey? Specially bearing in mind the hardships and ostracism that this invariably involved? I can safely answer for you, Brother Blackshirts. We most emphatically would not. When the Captain of the Titanic realised his ship was going down, he did everything he could to save his passengers and crew. And when Mosley saw that his country was sinking fast, he also did everything within his power to save it. Like the much maligned Captain, Mosley was essentially an honourable man.

Gordon Beckwell

THE MOSLEY HERITAGE

Over the Whitsun weekend in 1950 Union Movement held a camp and rally at Lymington in the New Forest. On Saturday a sales drive was held in Bournemouth to help sell the weekly paper *Union*. Sunday began with a march in Poole led by the London drum corps. Later that day Oswald Mosley visited the camp after flying into London airport from Madrid.



UNION MOVEMENT WHITSUN CAMP 1950

F.O.M archive have some excellent pictures of general camp activity but nothing of Sir Oswald's visit. Photographs must have been taken by members. If you were there and took some snaps we would like the opportunity to borrow them for copying.

Friends of Mosley take this opportunity to thank the many amateur photographers who have provided pictures of events that were often never covered professionally.

THE TRUE FACE OF DEDICATION

Better the great adventure, better the great attempt for England's sake, better defeat, disaster, better far the end of that trivial thing called a political career, than stifling in a uniform of blue and gold, strutting and posturing on the stage of little England amid the scenery of decadence, until history in turning over an heroic page of the human story writes of us the contemptuous postscript: These were the men to whom was entrusted the Empire of Great Britain, and whose idleness, ignorance and cowardice left it a Spain.

SIR OSWALD MOSLEY 31ST DECEMBER 1931.

He tried to change the course of history, and to save the country he loved from what he regarded as a tragic decline. He failed. But Carlyle's metaphor comes to mind: 'When the ship returns to harbour with the hull battered and the rigging torn, before we assess the blame of the pilot, before we award the verdict of posterity, let us pause to enquire whether the voyage has been twice round the world or from Ramsgate to the Isle of Dogs'.

LADY DIANA MOSLEY WRITING IN HER BOOK **LOVED ONES** PUBLISHED 1985 (ISBN 0-283-99155-0)



SIR OSWALD AND LADY DIANA MOSLEY PICTURED IN 1969 ON THE BALCONY OF LE TEMPLE de la GLOIRE, THEIR HOME AT ORSAY OUTSIDE PARIS.

LEST WE FORGET : THE COMMUNIST TERROR

"Violence we forbid. Mere abuse we forbid." Mosley, 1936.

During the 1930s any verbal or physical self - defence by Mosley's supporters against violence organised by the communists, their fellow - travellers and Jewish front - organisations was decided by the "liberal" media as Fascist Terror, and the legend has grown with postwar telling.

Meanwhile, what was happening in the paradise then recommended by these people as the alternative to the programme of British Union ?

In the newly published book by Robert Service **A History of Twentieth Century Russia** (Penguin Press £25) Richard Pipes, the Times Literary Supplement reviewer, states Stalin's rule progresses in the 1930s to unbounded terror. Massacres were implemented in accord with pre-ordained and indiscriminate quotas. Vans and lorries marked "Meat" or "Vegetables" would carry the victims out to a quiet wood where deep pits had been secretly prepared. Between 1 and 1.5 million people perished in the "purges" The question

must be asked just who were the citizens of this country who supported the 'halcyon days of Uncle Joe' and his now verified crimes against humanity. **LE LIVRE NOIR DU COMMUNISME** claims that the victims of communism throughout the world since 1917 numbered close to 100 million human beings.

If such figures are near incomprehensible to readers we have it in microcosm by recalling the atrocity of the Katyn Wood murders. It was in late 1940 Stalin ordered the



'UNCLE JOE' THE IMAGE FOISTED ONTO A GULLIBLE BRITISH PUBLIC.

execution of the entire Polish Officer class, then being held in prison camps around Smolensk. 4443 bodies were later found buried in a forest clearing by the advancing Germans. An obvious Russian crime which the government did little to disabuse the public that the German army had been responsible. It was not even mentioned at the Teheran Conference in November 1943. For the ensuing 45 years successive allied Governments remained ambivalent. Obstacles were placed in the way of a group attempting to secure

a site and build a memorial in this country. Individual Union Movement members often joined Polish anti-Communist protest marchers through London led by General Wladyslaw Anders, the same man who led the army that would have included the slaughtered Poles.

Once the Berlin Wall fell the truth leaked out of the Russian archives, that Stalin had been the perpetrator of the crime. No one has been brought to justice for this most callous act. No band wagon has been set rolling. Why not ? Where are the anti-Communist features in the newspapers or on television, the exposure of Eastern European war criminals living a life of tranquil retirement in this country safe from their crimes committed on behalf of Stalin. Why again does no band wagon roll.

On the subject of government perfidy when will extradition procedures be instituted to bring back the master spy George Blake to serve the remaining 36 years of his sentence.

NEITHER OGRE

Journalist **Robert Innes-Smith** was a friend of **Oswald Mosley**. He began correspondence with Mosley in the 1950s and in later years met him several times. As a former editor of the **Tatler** and **Bystander** magazine he believes Mosley was neither traitor or an ogre. He offers a personal view of both the man and the television series depicting his life.



MOSLEY SPEAKS AT A SUPPORTERS AND FRIENDS DINNER.
ROBERT INNES-SMITH IS SEATED AT MOSLEY'S RIGHT.

Some years ago there was a series on television on the life of **Victoria Sackville West**. For anyone who knew her, however slightly, the result was a travesty - proving how it is almost impossible to get such things right.

She was unrecognisable; the aristocratic **Violet Trefus** came over as a **Wembley** hairdresser and **Harold Nicholson** appeared to be a wimpish bank clerk.

So what is one to make of the TV series on **Sir Oswald Mosley**? For a start it is very difficult to find young actors these days who have the right accents, and contorted vowels tend to spoil the illusion.

Also, when depicting someone as dynamic and controversial as Mosley, it is impossible to find an actor to bring alive his charisma. The trailer to this series as first pronounced him as "traitor", yet few

Englishmen were as patriotic as he. After complaints, this word was dropped.

I first met Mosley in the 1960s but had corresponded with him a few years earlier.

As a young man searching for a political creed and by nature a conservative, I had listened frustratedly to well-intentioned Tory waffling and the ludicrous posturings of Socialists. I had even gone to Communist meetings, which were sheer farce.

Having been warned that I might be beaten up, it was with some trepidation that I went one evening in 1954 to **Kensington Town Hall** to hear Mosley.

There was no waffling that day! Mosley entered an empty stage with the flags of the European nations draped behind him. He was heard in complete silence except for thunderous applause at the end, and

what he said seemed to make perfect sense.

Although delivered in the dramatic tones of the great orator that he was, one felt that he had carefully thought through everything that he was saying and that everything he was saying was concise and to the point.

Although I was in a sceptical mood, I found myself agreeing with almost everything he said and left the hall feeling that here was indeed a lost Prime Minister.

Mosley was, of course, an ogre. He was the potential gauleiter of England under Hitler. He was a war-time Nazi sympathiser. He was a traitor, and to prove it had been in prison during the war (without trial, needless to say). He had longed for the overthrow of this country by Germany. **All of this was total baloney.**

Disillusioned after the Great War by the feebleness of the Conservatives in improving conditions, he joined Labour and found them even worse.

Seeing what Mussolini had achieved in Italy by direct action, he felt that that was the only way. Maybe it was - but he (foolishly as it turned out) decided to go it alone, failing to understand his phlegmatic countrymen. Had he stuck with one of the main parties, most historians agree that he could have dominated either of them, and eventually become Prime Minister. That way, many of his objectives would have been achieved - by working through the system. His greatest mistake was to take another course.

After the Second World War he tried once more. In

spite of his great following in the working-class areas of East London, he was never to make an impact again in the way that he had in the 1930s.

After hearing him for the first time, I was intrigued and, after being brainwashed by almost everyone I talked to about him into thinking him to have horns and a tail, I wrote to him, posing cheeky questions. To my surprise, he replied at length and gave satisfactory answers to my impertinent comments.

We corresponded from time to time and he sent me his publication **Action** which, unlike the corresponding broadsheets of the left, usually contained sensible and well-balanced arguments.

One day in 1967, sitting on top of a bus at **Victoria Station**, I saw a tall, limping figure wearing a wide-brimmed hat making for the station forecourt. Although I knew it was almost a birds eye view I knew instinctively who it was.

As the bus began to pull away I bounded down the stairs and jumped off, running towards the station to head him off. I then turned my back and ran towards him. I might have been an assassin but he did not flinch for a moment. "Sir Oswald Mosley?" I asked, rather out of breath. "Yes, who are you?" When I said my name, he remembered and we had a brief talk. "I must catch my train for Paris now but do come and see me when you are in France."

Although I never did get to **Le Temple de la Gloire**, his miniature chateau outside Paris, I was to meet him many times.

NOR TRAITOR

By then he was an elder statesman, still a powerful orator but his earlier arrogance (James Les-Milne said that he was a man of overwhelming egotism, did not know the meaning of humility, brooked no argument and would accept no advice) had mellowed.

To me, a nobody, he was kind, thoughtful and amusing. The endless insults, snubs and downright defamations that were heaped upon him and his second wife worried me a great deal but perhaps I worried too much as the Mosleys had weathered many a storm and developed a toughness to withstand all these "slings and arrows"

In 1968, I became Editor of the *Tatler* and *Bystander* Magazine. We carried two items - Letter from Rome and Letter from Paris. I asked Lady Mosley to contribute the latter as she lived just outside the French Capital.

She agreed and wrote a series of amusing and informative pieces, which were well received. She has the Mitford gift with words as anyone who has read her books will know. I saw a little more of both of them from then on.

When the late Gordon Clark asked me for ideas to expand the orbit of the Abbotsholme Arts Society, which he founded (its guest performers had hitherto been limited to distinguished musicians), I had suggested Mosley.

Gordon jumped at the idea and I asked the great man if he would come. He agreed and, with the help of Ian Waller, whose son had been at the school and who was a political correspondent on The

Sunday Telegraph, Lord Boothby was also roped in for a discussion.

The Mosleys, the Boothbys, my wife and I and the Clarks had a dinner at the school beforehand and the evening was a great success.

Waller set the controversial ball rolling at the dinner table and the reminiscences of Mosley and Boothby exchanging anecdotes about Baldwin, Lloyd-George and Churchill was living history.

This "warm-up" set the pace for the meeting that followed. The audience was invited to put questions to Mosley and he fielded them

her own. I asked her and she agreed. That evening, too, was a great success and several old people came to pay tribute to her as they remembered her and her husband when they lived close by at Wootton Lodge.

Mosley and his second wife admired Hitler in the early days, as did large numbers of people in this country (including members of my own family). Likewise Mussolini. They were clearing up the post-Great-War shambles quickly and were against Communism. But, when it all became a disaster and the true horrors of Nazism were

was largely the result of being judged by, hindsight and of the relentless and mischievous propaganda war waged against him by Leftists, to whom he was a hate-figure, over the past 60 years.

Their success in that direction would have made Dr Goebbels green with envy! Even members of his own family turned against him.

He was hated for being different, un-English in his ideas, and for making other politicians look timid.

The English only like to see piratical, swash-buckling Elizabethan types in films. They cannot take the real thing.

Even so, the distinguished Labour politician, R.H.S. Crossman, admitted that one of the reasons why Mosley was disliked was because he was invariably right, and the Socialist historian A.J.P. Taylor regarded his pre-war ideas as "... a blueprint for most of the constructive advances in economic thinking to the present day ... evidence of a superlative talent".

Yet anyone daring to defend him was invariably execrated. I dare say that the makers of this current TV series will feel the lash for not perpetuating all the old myths and being "too kind".

It is good that, after all these years of what looked like a conspiracy of silence, these programmes are being shown on television, but one cannot help cynically feeling that Channel Four is using his panoramic love-life as an excuse for pornography. I was hoping for fairness with "warts and all" (and he had his fair share of those).



MOSLEY SPEAKS AT KENSINGTON TOWN HALL. ONE OF THE VERY FEW HALLS IN THE COUNTRY THAT UNION MOVEMENT WAS ALLOWED TO BOOK.

well. To my astonishment and delight he received rapturous applause.

Waller, a man of the Left, I felt was disappointed and afterwards could not resist writing a spiteful article in *The New Statesman* about the event, needlessly attacking the Mosleys, which necessitated a rebuttal by Lady Mosley. There was nothing new about that!

A few years after his death, Gordon Clark asked if I thought Lady Mosley would come to Abbotsholme on

revealed, Mosley, as did most other admirers of European fascism, not surprisingly had seconds thoughts.

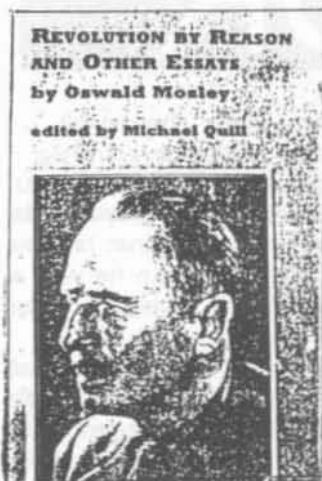
As for being a "traitor", he told me that if Germany had attacked England he would have fought to the death for his country. I know that he would have done so.

This is not the place to ponder the rights and wrongs of Mosley's policies but it must be said that, whatever, he did he did for his country.

His tarnished reputation

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

BOOK REVIEW



Despite a carpingly critical introduction from one Andrew Hawking, in which hostile pygmies have plenty to say and wild guesses at B.U.F strength are made without a shred of evidence, this is a most important book and its editor Michael Quill is warmly to be congratulated. Nearly 20 years after his death is a good time to assess

Mosley's significance, but we have just had yet another hymn of hate bleated out against him and assisted by a televised soap opera. What however have his opponents, the brightest ornaments of the great parties of state, got to brag about amid all their pomp and sleaze? Correlli Barnett, Britain's leading living historian, summed up as follows in the Sunday Times last October:

"So here we are, half a century after the second World War, still suspended between Europe and the Commonwealth. Here we are, even after such poignantly symbolic acts as the hauling down of the

REVOLUTION BY REASON AND OTHER ESSAYS BY OSWALD MOSLEY

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Union flag in Hong Kong and the scrapping of Britannia, still unable to accept the reality that we are now just an island European state with a GNP per head ranking 19th in the world".

Put another way, just at the time when it was the current holder of Europe's 'revolving presidency' our New Labour government was far more excitedly preparing to be Field Marshal Clinton's drummer boy, but its day of glory did not dawn because Saddam Hussain called off the war.

As the forward of this book shows, Britain was the first nation to undergo an industrial revolution in the age of steam and is now deeply involved in the electronic or 'information' age. Advancing technology enables us to produce more and more wealth in greater variety at decreasing cost. We live in a age of plenty. As Mosley discovered after entering politics as an ex-service MP in the Khaki Election of 1918, however, no British government has ever attempted to give British people the purchasing power to consume what British industry could produce. To achieve this became the first of his political aims;

"building a land fit for heroes to live in". His second aim in political life was to keep a second British generation out of another bloodbath of European youth.



Much of this book is then devoted to his policies for realising these aims. During the 1920s he proposed to use producer's and consumer's credits to equate the two sides of industry, following his 'Revolution By Reason' speech in 1925. A few years later he was in the forefront with ideas for energising the whole British economy; he summarised this in the **Mosley Manifesto** in 1930; when the Labour government rejected this on the eve of the Great Depression of the 1930s but failed to put forward any comparable programme of action, Mosley resigned from the government and his resignation speech is given in this book.



MICHAEL QUILL.

Next comes a summary of policy in his B.U.F period, extracts from 'The Greater Britain' of 1932, the book which first laid down the Mosley challenge to the old political system in the 1930s, followed by further extracts from 'Tomorrow We Live' six years later, written for the mass membership gathered around Mosley.

But then came a second world war in 1939, leading first to the eclipse of fascist doctrines and later the collapse of Soviet communism in the following Cold War. This was not all:



FOLDING TOMORROW WE LIVE AS THEY COME FROM PRINTING.

the British and other European colonial empires were all swept away, and in their place arose a new concept of the political and economic union of Europe, to which Mosley turned as the great post war field for his thinking. Out of the huge body of his writings

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

READ-TOMORROW-WE-LIVE

Olive joined the secretarial staff of BU at the age of 16 and soon became an assistant to George Sutton, the Director of Research. However, her commitment to 'British Socialism' went far beyond office work and she eventually gained a speaker's warrant and became Womens District Leader for Peckham branch. In 1937 Olive was also appointed British Union Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for Peckham: even though only 19 years old. If a snap General Election had been called then she would not have been old enough to stand but no election was expected before 1940.

The most important period of Olive's service to British Union was after the outbreak of the War. She was one of a large group of women activists who doubled their efforts to 'fill in' for the many male members who had been called up in the Armed Services. During this time she devoted all of her energies to persuading the British people to call for 'Peace with Honour and British people safe and Empire intact'. Early in 1940 Olive was appointed to the top womens post in British Union: a promotion then categorised her among the leaders of British Union and earned

Profile : Olive Hawks

Last chief womens organiser of British Union

her a lengthy period of internment under Regulation 18B in Holloway Prison and the Isle of Man.

During the latter part of her detention, she began writing her first novel 'What Hope for Green Street' (Jarrolds 1945): a telling explanation of why so many working class families in East London came to support 'Imperial Socialism' and the social factors that prevented the wishes of

ordinary people from materialising.

Olive's wartime marriage to BU's Frederick Burdett did not survive her internment of over 4 years. Although she retained her original beliefs, Olive was one of those who did not return to active politics after the war. She had spent all her adult years within the close confines of British Union and later His Majesty's Prisons. She was still



young - the post-war world seemed an exciting place and Olive determined to explore it. Whilst continuing to write novels, she went to Greece where she married for the second time. Her last book 'Life Lies Ahead' (1951), a book of practical advice for young wives setting up home, was co-authored with Eustace Chessier, a prominent Jewish psychiatrist and writer of popular sociological studies, with illustrations by Quentin Crisp whose life was later dramatised in 'The Naked Civil Servant'.

After the birth of two sons, Olive and her family emigrated to a Dominion country where she died in March 1992 aged 75. The courageous life of this woman patriot and her like formed the bedrock of inspiration for those who followed.

Gordon Beckwell



OLIVE LEADING FROM THE FRONT. HEADING THE WOMENS SECTION ON A LONDON MARCH.

B.O.G.O.F.

Buy one get one free, greets shoppers in supermarkets these days. Sounds good, but what is it really saying? It is saying that you are being grossly overcharged on everything they sell. No one can make hundreds of millions of profit year after year giving away anything 'free'.

Tony Blair, on becoming

Labour Leader, declared he wanted to take power and wealth away from the few and give it back to the many. That sounds good too, but the supermarkets are a prime example of the concentration of wealth and power by the few.

We have all been here before. In the pre-war days a great B.U.F campaign was conducted against the high street multiples. Pamphlets such as **menace of the chain stores,**

shopkeepers at war, 'gainst trust and monopoly highlighted the growing problem.

Well attended protest meetings were held all over the country but still the small shopkeeper was relentlessly squeezed. The war and rationing brought some respite but now more sophisticated methods are employed one stop shopping is the cry.

All true competition has disappeared along with thousands of small shopkeepers and most of the smaller and local food manufacturing companies. Prime Minister Blair, between sound bites and grins, is giving the supermarkets yet more wealth as agents for his new 'saving scheme'. Concentrating yet more wealth and power in to the hands of the few.

MICHAEL QUILL

MOSLEY THE ALTERNATIVE
 DRAMA CONTINUED FROM
 PAGE 1

do this, noted d'Ancona, in what he no doubt intended as a put down, "was Oswald Mosley". This truth did not of course prevent the media from referring habitually to Mosley as the leader of the "extreme Right".

On a more hilarious level, the *Daily Telegraph* carried a warming up interview with Vidal Sassoon, the Californian-domiciled multi-millionaire crimper, who had a heroic post-war record with the 43 Group.

Described by his interviewer as "that curious thing: half man, half product," Sassoon made free with the products of his imagination. His mother, we read, was a passionate Zionist who inspired her son to become involved in the anti-fascist movement after the war.

"They started popping up again until the Government made it illegal to wear uniforms", recounted Sassoon. "I actually spent a night in jail for breaking up a fascist meeting at a pub in Kilburn. The following day the judge told us all to be good boys and behave ourselves."

This was 11 years after political uniforms were banned and two years before the 43 Group liked to claim it had driven the Mosleyites off the streets.

Whether Sassoon's Kilburn reminiscences are correct or not, it is certain that had the "fascists" broken up an

attack on their meeting, he and his friends would have been bleating about "brutality," leaving the alleged judicial catspaw of the political establishment to have imposed a sentence well in excess of "go off and enjoy yourselves."

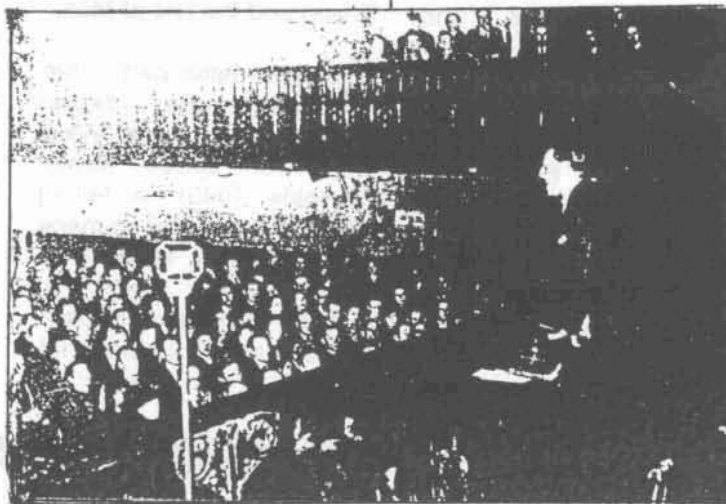
Another old figure from those early postwar days was the journalist Frederick Mullally, said the *Independent* writer, was "once beaten up by a mob of Mosley's supporters." Aside from the journalistic convention of re-cycling any old anecdotal claim on trust, this of course is another example of anti-Mosleyites wanting it both ways; to strike a pose as valiant "anti-Fascist fighters," while at the same time innocent victims of Mosleyite "brutality."

The *Independent* article, targeted on the rage of what it described as "Jewish activists," - and like every article in this media ramp, without the merest counter-balancing view - was illustrated with a photo of Mosley's 1947 press conference, with Mullally on hand looking malevolent and somewhat half-crazed.

Among Mullally's observations was this nugget, "He led his thugs into Jewish areas like Bethnal Green." Bethnal Green of course, like Shoreditch, Limehouse, Hackney and other East London boroughs, was predominantly non-Jewish, and it was from this working class population that

British Union rapidly built up an enthusiastic mass following. Mosley's supporters didn't need to go "into" Bethnal Green, for the clear and verifiable reason that so many of them were already living there.

is certainly the case in respect of the "continual celebration of violence in the media," whose traders - not least in the Hollywood tendency - would be apoplectic over this charge of guilt by "fascist" association.



MOSLEY SPEAKS FOR THE FIRST TIME IN PUBLIC SINCE 1940 AT FARRINGTON HALL 15TH NOVEMBER 1947. THE START OF THE LONG MARCH TO EUROPE A NATION.

Mullally of course is an old hand at this. Less so is Ivo Mosley, grandson of Sir Oswald and son of Nicholas. In a surreal article in the *Sunday Telegraph*, "Mosley is dead, but his soul goes marching on," he claims that much of what fascism advocated "is with us today."

"The cult of charisma, in the form of pop and film idols, the continual celebration of violence in the media, the cult of the body beautiful, the abolition of God, the division of society into middle class and under class." Futile no doubt to point out to Ivo Mosley that pop and film idols existed before and after fascism, likewise the cult of the body beautiful, and that attempt to abolish God (Mosley policy towards all religions was both neutral and respectful) began in earnest with Darwinian rationalists. Indeed many of the advocates and dispensers of the tendencies which Mr Mosley rightly abhors, were visceral anti-fascists. This

The reality is that the spirit of Mosley and his supporters was ranged against these things. They would have been regarded as degenerate and de-humanising products of a capitalist and left-liberal ascendancy. By policy and rhetoric, the call was always to nobility, the call of community, and service to fellow man. In the case of environmental destruction, two of the pioneer environmentalists were both Mosleyites, Henry Williamson and Jorian Jenks. If Mr Mosley bewails the trends in culture economics and society over the past fifty years, he should place the blame where it lies. In the circumstances it is surprising he omitted to heap other contemporary ills on Mosley and his movement such as mugging, drug abuse, Aids and the melting of the polar icecaps.

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EAST LONDONERS QUEUE TO JOIN THE NEWLY LAUNCHED UNION MOVEMENT

Gordon S Gee
1924 - 1997

A loyal and brave friend who served his family, his movement and his country well. During the war he fought in India and Burma. After the war he became a Union Movement candidate and took part in marches and meetings all over the country. A member of Manchester branch of U.M he also acted as an election agent and became well known to supporters. In later years he attended numerous social events and eagerly awaited the arrival of each issue of Comrade.

D. L.

NEITHER OGRE NOR TRAITOR
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7.

Listening to Mosley's oratory. I used to close my mind to the rhetoric and the powerful delivery (how can that ever be reproduced?) and concentrate on what he was saying.

He was such a potent and overwhelming speaker that it was easy to be swept off

one's feet, which is the wrong way to be influenced. Such a contrast to when he was "off duty" for, when relaxed, he was easy-going, charming and often funny (parts of his autobiography, *My Life*, are hilarious).

His second wife, Diana, has always been the personification of loyalty to her husband.

When she came to Abbotsholme, she spoke mainly about him and explained why he was so against war. In spite of so much hostility and unpopularity, she has never wavered in her total support.

One of the last times I saw Mosley was in an old Lancashire manor house, which had been one of the family seats and was then

Alfred Millns
1925 - 1998

A long time stalwart of Union Movement Alf was born and educated in Gorton, East Manchester. He joined the Royal Navy during the war and served heroically in the Far East. In the post war years he became Manchester U.M Branch Treasurer and assistant Branch Organiser. A brave man who always led from the front he attended many of the Mosley rallies and spoke at the Free Trade Hall meeting in 1961. Married with two children he embraced the concept of Europe A Nation and in recent years despite ill health never lost touch with his many political friends who will sorely miss him.

D. L.

an hotel. It was his 80th birthday and there was a party for him.

Of course, he made a speech and had lost nothing of his old fire, urging us to embrace Europe and describing himself as "a European".

The very last time I saw him was at an hotel in Victoria. I noticed that he had difficulty in negotiating the front steps and waived all offers of help. He seemed physically (but not in the least mentally) diminished. It was only afterwards that I was told that he had developed Parkinson's Disease.

Have I anything personally against Mosley? Yes. He had the most awful handwriting and, although I cherish the letters he wrote to me, I can hardly decipher them.

What would he have to say about this television series? Knowing him he would have flashed his hypnotic eyes, shrugged his shoulders and laughed.

Melvyn Higginbottom
BSc, MA.
1945 - 1998

A native of Manchester who became a teacher by profession, Melvyn went on to become a 'mature' student at the University of Salford graduating with a BSc (joint honours) degree (Social Sciences). He subsequently obtained an M.A in politics and contemporary history. Whilst never a member of Union Movement he was a loyal supporter of many of its policies and was active putting his name to articles and letters to the press together with appearing on local radio and television current affairs programmes. He was an election agent in the 1974 General Election and in more recent years had stood as a candidate in local government elections.

A kind man who loved animals he was a generous donor to many animal protection bodies. A member of the Mathematical Association and the Victorian Society,



he was recently acclaimed as an historian for his authorship of *Intellectuals and British Fascism* (Janus, £9.99 ISBN 18576 085X). A study of Henry Williamson and his work on the multi volumed *chronicle of ancient sunlight* together with the character Phillip Maddison. *Melvyn's death has been another blow to British patriots in the North West and will be sadly missed by myself and all good friends in the political, education and literary circles in which he lived.*

Dave Lawson Former North West Organiser, Union Movement.

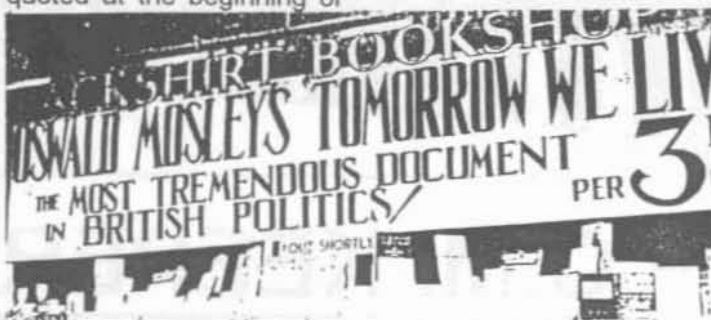
REVOLUTION BY REASON CONTINUED
FROM PAGE 8

between the second world war and his death his proposal for a wage-price mechanism (taken from his book of 1958 *'Europe: Faith and Plan'*) has been included in the present work. This policy, operating together with Mosley's concept of a world of economic systems of continental size (of which Europe including Britain would be one), would solve most of our major policies today.

Professor A.J.P Taylor is quoted at the beginning of

this book as saying that Mosley's ideas of the 1930s "offered a blueprint for most of the constructive advances in economic thinking to the present day". Since then the world has moved on a little, but Mosley himself has provided any updating his ideas of the 1930s needed by his latest concept of a wage-price mechanism at work within a European continental area. And that should take care of the 21st century or thereabouts.

Robert Row



William H Wood 1912-1997



BILL WOOD IN ACTION PRESS
UNIFORM 1936.

In the economic necessity of drastic cut backs of the B.U.F permanent staff in April 1937 Bill Wood was retained together with his salary of £3.15.0 (£3.12 1/2p) per week. He was

brought up over his fathers grocery shop in a poor district of Leeds and saw first hand the grinding poverty and general injustice of the age. Showing a talent for drawing he studied at the Leeds School of Art but faced with the realities of the time was forced to take a number of 'no hope' jobs. One profession he did stick with all his life was chimney sweeping. In the 1930s he developed the revolutionary concept of vacuum sweeping. Always politically aware and in his words fed up with "the land of dope and glory" he 'bumped up' against Mosley's 1932 book **The Greater Britain**, agreeing with its synthesis he knew he had found a calling that would last a life time. After attending Speakers School he helped organise and spoke at meetings all over Yorkshire. He was put in charge of the 'Agony Wagon' - the loud speaker van that gave back-up to all the major British Union northern meetings. He was promoted to district leader in 1936 and qualified for an Action Press uniform, which he proudly and bravely wore constantly, even to church. It was while he was selling **Action** in Briggate, Leeds on 1st January 1937 he was arrested for wearing a

by then banned political uniform. He was able to prove to the court that in fact his clothes were made up of chain store purchases. He was fined forty shillings (£2) "For being of a sinister appearance in a public place" He there upon

him in September 1940 but MI5 who by then had been infiltrated by the Communist spy Anthony Blunt objected so Bill spent a further fourteen months of imprisonment at the whim of the political arm of domestic government. Released in November



FULL FACE AND PROFILE SELF DRAWING BY BILL WOOD DURING
HIS IMPRISONMENT ON THE ISLE OF MAN

changed into white overalls

Happily married with four daughters, he continued his political campaigning until arrested under a 18B detention order and spent the next eighteen months shuffling, like so many others, between Armley, Brixton, York, Stafford, Walton, Huyton and eventually the Isle of Man. Consultation of a file in the Public Record Office reveals the interesting fact that the Birkett Tribunal was prepared to release

1941 on the understanding of being prepared to join the army. His medical graded him as Grade 4 so he spent the remainder of the war fire watching. Bill Woods was a man who fought for ideas and ideals, never for personal gain. When asked in 1990 if he regretted anything in his life he replied "**My only regret is that I did not do more to help prevent a second world war**" Rest in peace old comrade. Victory will be yours.



F.O.M. KEEPER OF THE FLAME

Published for F.O.M. By Leslie Chandler, 101 Orwell Court, Pownell Road, London. E8 4PP.

COMRADE

Incorporating ACTION and UNION

Newsletter of Friends of OMJ

'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'



No. 50

March/April 1999

IN A BANKRUPT BRITAIN, its world power and Empire dissipated in a disastrous World war and dependent on USA for survival, OSWALD MOSLEY in 1948 launched the concept of a Union of the European peoples in a great economic, social and spiritual reformation, he and Union Movement the first public voices to identify Britain's future with that of our fellow Europeans. Though a mainly economic European Union is now developing, "Their Europe is not our Europe any more than their Britain is our Britain" writes Peter Kennedy. Far from invalidating Mosley's European vision, the looming catastrophe of global free trade with the power of transnational corporations, makes the economic insulation of Britain and Europe even more urgent.

Late extra THEIR EUROPE FLOUNDERS

AS we go to press the entire European Commission has retired following the report of incompetence and corruption. It shows the failure of the system that was set up. It does not invalidate Mosley's European vision.

Mosley believed that the legitimacy of European Government must come from all the European people, not from squalid deals by petty politicians.

Turn to page 2

MOSLEY - THE FIRST EUROPEAN



British Union
ROLL OF HONOUR
1939 1945

MARCH-APRIL

BROOKER, C/O C.G. 90 Field
Post RA after 188 British
Political Prisoner 1940-
42; Exeter Bn. British
Union died on P.O.W.
long march 8 March 1945;
Remembered on Cassino
Memorial, Italy.

EAST, J.E. Philip: 5th Btn
Queen's Own Cameron
Highlanders; Leytonstone
British Union; age 26;
killed in action Tunisia
24 April 1943. Lies in
Medjer-el-Bab War Cem-
etery, Tunisia.

MITCHELL, H.J. The Hon. Tom

FRIC: HQ
Branch Brit-
ish Union;
brother of
Lady Mosley;
killed in ac-
tion Burma
4 April 1945.
Lies in Taubkhan War
Cemetery, Rangoon.

WATSON, A/B Cyril: Royal
Navy; Central Leeds Bn.
British Union; age 21;
killed in action HMS
Hardy, Narvik, April 10
1940; Remembered on
Plymouth Naval Memorial

The First



WITH this 50th issue of Comrade spanning 13 years, it can be said that it has achieved much of its main purpose which was to put the record straight on Mosley's challenge to the debilitating system of old gang politics, and to put the record straight on the patriotism and heroism of his Blackshirts. It has become respected for its integrity and accuracy in historical, academic and literary circles. It has also brought sustenance to many old Blackshirts who for half-a-century had to endure the lies that press and politicians churned out, most at the end of their time and now rest in peace. Turn to page 10

"WHO Needs Europe" blustered the Sun beneath its masthead as Prime Minister Blair was once again doing President Clinton's bidding in the skies over Irak.

'Euro-sceptics' were whistling a similar tune at the historical launch of the European single currency in January. With eleven EU nations at the helm, Britain was in its familiar European position; one foot over the break and affecting all things to all men.

Government reform

'As workers in the hi-tech industries go the same way as miners and fishermen, so the Blairites get into bed - literally in some cases, it seems - with the most parasitic elements of 'solomy and showbiz' capitalism. Saving the economy should be the first priority, not trashing the constitution'

James Heygate page 9

How stirring it would be if the result of this was British independence, the freedom and capacity to work out our own destiny.

Also the proposition is fatally flawed, and a national economy that was in thrall to international forces and conditions in the relatively 'safe' world of say the 1930's, faces incalculably greater threats in the dangerous area of the Global Economy.

Turn to page 2

1 First European

Establishment Europhiles are challenged - rightly so - to 'come clean'. But the anti-European unionists must do the same. What is their alternative to British participation in a single currency and political union?

Far from seizing independence, Outsider Britain will find its freedom of action greatly limited by whatever is happening in 'Euroland'.

The pound together with interests rates for example, will be profoundly effected. Euroland is for less dependent on external trade than its individual states, free - not unlike the USA - to pursue its policies in response to domestic priorities rather than external factors.

Britain by contrast will remain highly dependent on external trade, not only with Euroland, but with the low wage, cheap export economies of the Far East. Some independence!

This of course is exactly what a sizeable number of anti-Europeans want, a global free for all in which hefty profits on overseas investments and speculation takes precedence over the living conditions of the British people. Economic self-mastery can only be realised within a viable 'home' market sufficiently large, homogeneous and insulated.

In 1948 Oswald Mosley launched the concept of the Union of the European peoples in a great economic, social and spiritual reformation.

Mosley and Union Movement were the first public voices to identify Britain's future with that of our fellow Europeans, the first to advocate this no doubt startling proposal in great public campaigns.

It wasn't fully understood then, when British politicians were beguiled by imperial dreams and sustained by American charity. Not is it today, when 'Europe' is identified with busy-body interference from Brussels, nit-picking directives, threats, real and fanciful, to 'our national sovereignty'.

Mosley and Union Movement advocated European Union for two basic reasons. Always at the centre

of Mosley's economic policies has been the belief that global free trade is essentially chaotic, with a bias towards cheap labour and low or non-existent social costs, and with the speculator as its chief beneficiary, and the producer as victim.

Mosley's alternative is a Britain self-sufficient, insulated from the flux of world free trade and financier-driven pressures.

Only then can we acquire the stable economic system that will bring real economic advancement and social justice for all our people.

But since Britain - unlike the United States - is too limited to achieve this on her own, it was necessary to extend our area of economic kinship.

Up until the last war it could have been achieved within the British Empire. After 1945 Mosley - alone among politicians - saw that the Empire and all the old calculations and assumptions that flowed from it, were finished.

Britain was bankrupt, and the ethos of the triumphant 'ideal' was anti-imperial. Having heard Churchill encourage North Africans to kick out the Italian colonists, Africa south of the Sahara was geared up to do the same to the British. With the reality of Empire finished - the illusion was for too long to be another matter - the alternative lay across the Channel with our fellow Europeans.

But for Mosley and Union Movement, European Union had another and higher purpose, to carry, as Mosley put it in 1955, "three thousand years of the most exalted culture the world has seen to yet further heights of the human spirit".

These two strands, economic and spiritual, remain at the core of 'Mosleyism'. Neither of course is in prospect in modern Britain or the European Union.

We live in increasingly soulless capitalist societies where 'The Market' is sovereign, the employee citizen servant of the economic order, and all considerations of family, traditional bonds, community, culture and sentiment are subordinate and more often than not, ruthlessly dispensed with.



Those who run the EU are simply products of the existing system. Old Gang politicians and bureaucrats who believe in global free trade and political correctness, and feel entirely at home with the Blairs, Hagues and Ash-downs.

Their Europe is not our Europe, any more than their Britain is our Britain.

Far from invalidating Mosley's European vision, the looming catastrophe of global free trade together with the power of transnational corporations, makes the economic insulation of Britain and Europe ever more urgent.

The EU as currently organised is a globalist entity. But it will not always be so. The lash of external events will provide its own rude corrective. In the meantime the single currency lays the basis for longer-term lower interest rates, a reduction in instability and currency turmoil, and by reversing economic short-termism, points towards a foundation for sustainable growth and job creation.

Those in sympathy and agreement with so many of our policies and ideals, but who believe Britain can go it alone are profoundly mistaken in their economic reasoning. Where is the non-European alternative? This does not mean that whatever was right in 1948 or 1968 should be set in stone. Prescriptions that were correct in a different period and circumstances must always be retested against the often

very different conditions of a new age. We must address the present and future with the same combination of idealism, firm purpose, and clarity of thinking that was one of Oswald Mosley's most striking characteristics.

It was Mosley after all who said that to live without learning anything during years in which all things change, is simply to be a fool. "Only cowards surrender their beliefs when they are true; only fools cling to their beliefs when new facts render them no longer true".

In the new century Britain and Europe will face the final alternative; to succumb to economic and social collapse and spiritual decay; the consummation of the greatest death wish in history; or build movements that will enable our peoples to live in decency, security and honour.

1 THEIR EUROPE FLOUNDERS

The current Commission of retired failures and throw-outs from national governments, interfering into everything under the sun, supplied with billions of taxpayer's money and accountable to no-one is an open invitation to wide-spread corruption.

It is said that the two British Commissioners were not corrupt. They just sat there and said and did nothing except draw their very large salaries.

EUROPE A NATION calls for the free vote for a parliament of all the Eur-

Turn to page 3

They could never forgive Mosley because he was always right

AT the beginning of his political career, Oswald Mosley spoke out against the repression of the Black and Tans in Ireland. He warned that their indiscriminate attacks on ordinary people who had nothing to do with the I.R.A. would alienate the Catholic population from Great Britain. And he was right.

Later he warned the Labour Government of 1930, of which he was a member, that unless it took decisive action to counter unemployment it would be swept from the seat of power that it disgraced. And that is what happened one year later.

MOSLEY AND THE ZINOVIEV LETTER

THE recent release of Government papers have revealed that the infamous Zinoviev Letter was an MI5 fraud.

For most of this century MI5 has been indulging in 'Reds under the Bed' scares in order to discredit the Labour Government - except in the 1930-40s when it transferred its attention to Mosley's British Union, sharing much responsibility for the incarceration of political and loyal British men and women in prisons and concentration camps.

Yet MI5 itself has produced more traitors and defectors than any other institution in Britain.

The Zinoviev scare during the 1924 General Election had a far greater significance than the defeat of an already doomed Labour Government. For one Labour candidate it had life-long implications.

At Ladywood, Birmingham, Neville Chamberlain, the doyen of the Tory Party, faced a challenge from Oswald Mosley, the idol of Labour's radicals. It was well known that he advocated government take over of the banks and finance houses, a policy that was anathema to the forces of international finance. Had Mosley won against the national trend of Labour defeat, his political prestige would have risen to paramount heights. The men of caution who surrounded Labour leaders Ramsay MacDonald and Snowden would have found it impossible after that to stop his progress in the party.

On election night Mosley took Chamberlain to four counts. First it was 20 in Chamberlain's favour, then 7 and then the third Mosley in by 2. The final count was Chamberlain in by 27.

The Zinoviev factor was

Throughout the 1930's he constantly warned that if we continued to allow low-priced foreign goods to be imported into Britain from the cheap labour countries of the world, then most of our major industries would be destroyed. And where are our great textile, shipbuilding and steel-making industries today? They disappeared under the barrage of cheap imports exactly as Mosley said they would.

Perhaps the greatest warning during the 1930's was that if we went to war with Germany it would result in Britain losing its wealth, its power, its Empire - and making Russian Communism a powerful force in the world. We went to war and a decade later all these things came about.

After that War he warned that a great recession was coming. In a brilliant series of essays, he described how automation would put millions permanently out of work unless Government ensured that the greater productive power was used to increase the wealth of the nation. Rather than reduce the workforce and boost short-term profits. Today almost 10% of the working population remains unemployed following the recession of the early 1990s. Just as Mosley had predicted.

He also warned that mixing together large numbers of people of different race, culture,

tradition, outlook and way of life would lead to strife for men and women of all races concerned. He invited Black people to join his Associate Movement (a Black Section within Union Movement) to fight for a solution in the interest of all races. But Mosley's ideas for solving the problems of multiracialism were ignored or misrepresented by the media and in 1981 major riots broke out in Brixton, Toxteth and elsewhere. Who would deny that deep dissatisfaction with the multiracist society that has emerged continues to smoulder today?

But most of all, he was right about Europe

Long before the advent of the Common Market, Mosley urged Europe to unite. As far back as 1948 he created a new political Movement to persuade the British to take the lead in making 'Europe a Nation'. This would create the most powerful, most prosperous and most beneficent state that the world had ever seen. And he pointed out that it could all be achieved without the need for individual peoples to lose their identity in the process - and more than the Scots had ceased to be

Scottish or the Welsh ceased to be Welsh because they became part of the United Kingdom over 200 years ago.

The last 32 years of his life he spent developing in fine detail what form United Europe should take. It is true that Mosley's vision was in many ways different from what has been created today. But in that belief that Britain's future lay within the Union of Europe he has been proved right by events - he was years ahead of his time. And once more, all lesser men who hated Mosley for his brilliance had to admit to themselves that Mosley had been right all along. And they hated him all the more for it.

At the end one of his great meetings at Kensington Town Hall in the 1960s to convert the people of Britain, he spoke of we his followers thus:

'In years to come, when the story of this period comes to be written, they will write of you across the pages of history with these proud words. "To England, To Britain, To Europe, They were true"'

But more than anyone else, these words apply to him.

He was the first European.

GORDON BECKWELL

2 EUROPE FLOUNDERS

European people who would then select the ablest among them to be the European Government. It would be charged with Defence, Foreign Policy, Scientific research and overall economics, all else left to National Governments or Regions according to local wishes.

The European Parliament should be of men and women of the highest ability and honour, their

numbers possibly reduced to a more workman-like size. They would continue to monitor and question the performance of the Government they had selected, and be able to dismiss any minister who had failed. They should offer constructive criticism and bring forward new ideas for discussion.

The Council of Ministers would offer advice and ideas but the power would be with the elected Government.

just sufficient to give Chamberlain victory in the seat he had previously held with a majority of 3000.

So the crucial question that Mosley asked - whether Britain should be ruled by the Money Power or an elected government was never put to the people.

Without the Zinoviev Letter forgery by MI5 agents, the course of Mosley's career and Britain's history might have been a completely different story. **Terence Pitcher**

'When a true genius appears in this world, you may know him by this sign, that all the dunces, all the confederacy are against him'

Jonathan Swift

Mosley, not Churchill, is the Euro-guru

THE Dory graduates who entered Northwestern on Thursday were not given enough to eat: a bowl of soup. They received the infamous Thursday's 12th Israeli speech to Supreme Court justices for attending the *Yom HaZikaron* ceremony.

John Laughland on what those Tory grāndeēs have in

impression with the fastest leader

of witness. They were also the way that idea that to allow a marriage to last meant to value that very union—something way to thinking more given. Like leaders, Eurocentricism, the three thought a better tomorrow was to be achieved by the state, not the

Sunday Telegraph 22 September 1996

By John Christian

'Mosley, like them, sought British 'leadership' in Europe" ran a Sunday Telegraph headline in a major feature in 1996 contrasting Mosley's and Churchill's views on Europe, 'them' being 'Tory grandees' who in The Independent had invoked Churchill's 1946 Zurich speech to legitimise their support for integrating Britain with European monetary and political union.

Had the Sunday Telegraph been converted to Mosley's vision of a United Europe and 'outed' itself to publish the views of the man, that pre-war 'fascist', who for years had been the subject of a complete media boycott, except to write, when it suited their purpose, of the brilliant politician who 'never made it'.

Not at all: Their prominent feature, contributed by 'Euro-sceptic' author John Laughland, was intended to 'rubbish' those influential Tories advocating some form of European union, by associating their views with Mosley the man who is anathema to politicians and press because events are proving him right.

Nevertheless, Mr. Laughland gave an honest appraisal of Mosley's view on Europe, even if he does cleverly and wrongly associate his views with wartime Nazi ideology.

He rightly states that it was not Churchill who sounded the post-war clarion call for a future British role in a union of Europe, but his 'arch enemy, Sir Oswald Mosley'. Not grand enough to have a sure grasp of history the Tories would have been on firmer ground to invoke Mosley who had 'always supported the idea of joining such a bloc while Churchill's view was

"We are with Europe but not part of it". Mosley, "by contrast, spent his life urging Britain to merge its destiny with Europe".

After the war, wrote John Laughland, Mosley had

called for a 'new beginning', a 'European patriotism'. A European Socialism to reconcile socialism and capitalism, the international aspects of the latter producing conflict. He advocated an equivalent of today's Social Chapter - 'industrial self-government' because 'workers understand the problems in their own industry'.

In Mosley's Europe it would be illegal to undercut rivals by paying lower wages, only by greater efficiency. A 'wage-price mechanism' would stabilise the value of goods in terms of labour. Currency would be better controlled by the state than the market. Since 1930 Mosley had called for Britain to insulate herself from the chaos of world markets, a call echoed by current continental advocates of European Union, as does Mosley's 'incessant attacks' in the international trading system and 'foreign speculators'. Instead of multilateral international trade Mosley wanted 'a world divided into self-sufficient blocs' where the economy would be directed by the bloc.

'National economies
doomed without union'

Mosley believed that the national economies of states within Europe are doomed without union and to consolidate the space for Europe a Nation he had advocated a tunnel under the English Channel long before it materialised.

Before his death, Mosley had long reproached Britain for its 'refusal to enter fully and completely into European life' and called for British 'leadership in Europe' wrote

John Laughland, "instead of being the laggard in a plan to make Europe in 15 years, Britain should be the leader in making Europe in as many months". His 1958 writing that Britain should be "the heart of Europe" was 30-odd years later to 'dog' Tory Prime Minister John Major.

The writer quotes Mosley from The European that "The only thing which is certain is that the Conservative Party will never stand for Europe a Nation. They will never merge British Government in European Government" and nailing his colours to the mast he adds "Let us hope that...Mosley turns out to be right in that prediction, at least"

Never again a
brothers war says
blood soaked Europe

At this point of Mr Laughlin's appraisal let us return to his rejection of the Tory 'Eurofiles example of Churchill as a 'Euro-guru', a rejection with which I agree but add the thought of how on earth those Tory grandees selected Churchill as a suitable figurehead to aid the cause of a historical British entry into any form of a united Europe, for apart from Churchill's reservations, he had a major responsibility for laying Europe in ruins during the 1939 war, leaving the European nations to pick up the pieces and resolve never again would the life-blood of their peoples saturate European soil in the holocaust of a brother's war, and the old enemies united in determination to strive to unite into one nation of peoples of the same kind, of the same culture.

within the borders of
lands made almost holy
by its blood drenched
soil.

Whatever can be put forward as Churchill's attributes, he was basically unreliable and until the last war the Tory party had spent almost a lifetime fighting off his deficiencies. And as late-20th century historians are beginning in effect to suggest, the last war was won, discounting Allied aid, not because of Churchill's leadership, but because of the heroism of our armed forces, and despite it.

By the mid-1930s Churchill was an almost finished politician, discredited by all sides of the political Establishment. He was also in increasingly dire financial straits from which he was saved from probable bankruptcy by financial gifts from rich international friends. It was then he sold his soul, and began his campaign for a war with Germany and allied himself with forces who for various reasons wanted just that. Churchill gambled that the one way left for him to return to political power was war with Germany and for once his gamble paid off and he not only got his war but thousands died, and he revelled in it, as he was after the war to admit.

Churchill personally won his gamble but it was not so for Great Britain, losing the greatest Empire the world had seen because of that war, losing its world power, and that Britannia which once ruled the Waves now almost sinks beneath them in the North Sea from the increasing weight of the invasion of immigrants from not only the Empire Churchill lost but from all parts of the world.

So when you 'Eurofiles' and 'Euro-sceptics' join battle on Europe in the coming months - whether Britain should be 'in it, sort of' or 'out of it, sort of', I would advise it wise to leave Churchill out of it.

Turn to page 5



Picking up the remnants of the old, amends can only be made in a new beginning through Europe a Nation, our last opportunity says RONALD CREASY, countryman, veteran Blackshirt and Second War political prisoner who still proudly flies British Union's Circle and Flash banner on his masthead high over the Suffolk countryside at Eye where in the 1930s he was the first elected Blackshirt Councillor

AS A BEACON FLAME across the plains of a waste civilisation, the banners are flying in appraisal of a United Europe. A suspect history to be incorporated in the doctrinaire of the doom of the Dome.

In flights of fancy we are informed by the media and the glass framed box, that the last hundred years have seen mankind conquer Communism and Fascism, semblance of the past. A nice conjuring for

'The future I may face, now that I have proved the past' Browning

An Englishman remembers 'To England, To Britain, To Europe, They were True'

BY RONALD CREASY

the unsuspecting in role of placation. Old orders have a habit of returning redressed to regulate the circumstances of the period. Old orders weaken through corruption, lack of morals and integrity not unknown in current history in a slow degradation of probity.

As from the time of the Aztecs, great men in leadership opposed the decay of their civilisation and, as with Christ, forfeited their lives or were condemned by imprisonment as in recent history.

In this context it is opportune to consider the case of Sir Oswald Mosley. Thrown into jail under the infamous wartime 18B Regulation, cooked up overnight, with hundreds of his supporters without charge or trial as the only way as the only way they could be silenced. The only way to stop his policy for a strong Europe reverberating throughout the Western Hemisphere in prosperity power and a united strength of purpose which could not have been opposed by any other country in the world.

This conception of a true United Europe was declared by Mosley in forthright terms in 1937, but it did not suit the Mammon Lords or certain specious reasons resulting in the 1939 War from which Europe has not yet recovered. A war which annexed our island and the British Empire to the dominance of America with the assistance of Soviet Russia.

It was Lenin in a speech in Red Square who said: "Who has Berlin has Germany. Who has Germany has Europe. Who has Europe has the world".

Rather late in the day and with Soviet Russia holding half Berlin, Churchill at the end of 1949 formed the European Movement. How is conscience must have reproached him. For some unknown reason I was asked to join.

I wrote him a forthright letter accusing him of having helped to destroy Europe more than any other man in England and was surprised that after opposing his noble relative I gathered that at this late hour he sought help from those who supported

Mosley.

My invited Application for membership was readily accepted although I had stated on the form that I would only join on the understanding that I remained 100% loyal to Mosley and the strictures of his 'Europe a Nation' policy he first voiced the previous year.

The immediate result was an 'all expenses paid' invitation to attend conferences and stay at the spacious grounds of their Establishment half-way between London and Brighton. These were interesting but not very instructive. Most afternoons, though expected to attend conference, I disappeared into the Library with its plush chairs and read books that were full of revelations but denied to the public. Fortunately I was not discovered.

Thus we return from the old to the new. The old vision of Europe a Nation conceived by the never failing insight of the greatest Leader this country has known, and eagerly supported by intelligent people of all classes.

The new Britain in Europe has picked up the remnants at this belated hour. A refuge of political integration, single currency and tax harmonisation. It will recover itself from being little more than a jumping off ground for America in facility of power over smaller nations for its own gain, a measure deployed against the core of the Western world at the expense of the British Empire. Britain in European Union will also ease or rescue itself from the American stranglehold which has already destroyed our economy in which both Agriculture and Industry are suffering.

Amends can only be made in a new beginning through Europe a Nation. It is our last opportunity, even though it is our considerable misfortune that Mosley was unheeded with an Extension of Patriotism of our island race, in leading Britain into a really United Europe.

Whatever the outcome The air will reverberate with the spirit of Europe a Nation.

4♦ Euro-guru

For he was never a Euro-guru. Events have proved he was not even a British-guru.

The warring politicians will no doubt highlight Mosley's ideas on Europe if they feel this would discredit the opposing argument, pointing out that European politicians are frequently using Mosley's phrases and ideas.

As if it mattered. Our politicians are living in a world of their own, a sort of cocoon, and they are fighting to maintain the power they think they control at Westminster on the world stage. The New Europe - and as much as we find it far from Mosley's Europe, but wish it well - will increasingly find the

antics of Britain's politicians of little consequence.

This increasing reference by our politicians and the media to that 'fascist' Mosley, dead for nearly twenty years would have amused him and, like those who knew him well, can see that particular Mosley facial expression of this sense. No doubt Jonathan Swift has such as Mosley in mind with his:

"When a true genius appears in the world, you may know him by this sign; that all the dunces, all the confederacy are against him".

Mosley's place in history is assured. His name will be revered long after the political names of the 20th Century have been lost in the mists of the

past. He will be remembered for being one of the greatest of Englishmen who in a shrinking world made it necessary, to extend his patriotism for sake of survival of the European peoples.

REVOLUTION BY REASON

This recently published book of the collected works on economics of OSWALD MOSLEY gives the antidote to globalisation pushed daily down our throats by politicians, media and international financial interests. It demonstrates how the long term problems affecting the Nation can only be solved when we get our economics right.

Our readers can help in making this book widely available. Apply for it NOW at your local library.

REVOLUTION BY REASON

Edwin Mellen Press
ISBN 0-7734-8429-9

As reviewed in The Times and The Guardian.

'But 'odd-man-out' is still the game played in Europe by British politicians' writes ROBERT ROW 'It has now become a dangerous game'

50 YEARS OF WASTED OPPORTUNITIES

'WE MUST unite EUROPE' said Oswald Mosley on the day the second war ended. European Union soon proved itself a popular idea on the European mainland since it made another World War extremely unlikely. Mosley fully shared in this: he detested World Wars, having spent his youth fighting in the air and in the trenches in the first one and suffering imprisonment in Mr Churchill's prisons without charge or trial in the second.

Mosley also saw a fully united Europe as the great economic replacement of the former British Empire. This was clearly doomed to extinction by Churchill's mad conduct of the war, especially when the Empire's leading enemies Roosevelt and Stalin ganged up together at Casablanca and other wartime conferences. So it was on the new concept Europe a Nation that Mosley was to base many of his pre-war policies, adapted to meet the new facts of the post-war world after the upheaval of war.

In Britain however, most Tory and Labour politicians deliberately set out to wreck the great concept or render it sterile. Their attitude to Europe was set in concrete after six years of world war and its destructive propaganda. It was a certainty that Germany would be included in a future Europe a Nation and, much as with the first World War of 1914/18 Germany was saddled with the main guilt for the war of 1939/45.

Thus while claiming to abhor 'racism' aroused by their deluging Britain with coloured immigrants, our politicians blatantly indulged themselves with a virulent type of anti-German 'racism' most of the time.

Fortunately, most Europeans did not share this right-wing humbug so deeply entrenched in the Conservative party. The work of building 'Europe a Nation' went steadily ahead. In the early days both Labour and Tories fell for some classic self-deception. If they, the triumphant victors of the Second World War, decided in their wisdom that the European idea was little more than a flash-in-the-pan, was not going to set the Thames on fire and was merely a passing alarm, why worry about it.

A rosy dream was meanwhile attracting the party leaders - Britain would become a leading exporting nation as in the old

days, and when Britain's colonies became independent they were ushered into the new fangled Commonwealth to receive much financial aid from Britain. Something would be rescued from the wreckage of Empire after all, and then the prospect of a world-wide array of British export markets dazzled the politicians.

Tories such as Harold Macmillan (famous or infamous as 'Supermac') were deeply struck by the scheme, outshining all talk of Europe. But other factors intervened, unfortunately at this juncture for the plans of mice and men.

The fact was that communism was the spreading across Asia. In 1949 China fell to Chairman Mao. In 1950 the Korean war began, another domino tottered. Others looked shaky in Southern Asia, and the United States which had assumed the defence of democracy East of Suez, took steps to stop all Asia going 'Red'.

So Japan was lined up, the military arsenal of the Asian democracies and the Western powers. A peace treaty was quickly signed between the USA and Japan at San Francisco, very generous to the latter. It was at this time that Tokyo made a formal apology for its appalling treatment of Western POW's in the Second World War, but that had become ancient history in Washington. What mattered there now was to 'stop the Commies'. Tokyo got away with an extremely vague apology and derisive compensation.

When British POW's recently protested over the lack of official interest in their wartime sufferings, Tokyo replied that the book was closed. It certainly was.

'The day when Prime Minister Blair would perform as Washington's pet dog had not yet dawned'

History was marching on and the American Super-power did not hesitate to rub in that the British Empire was finished. To reassure Australia and New Zealand that they need not fear a re-

surgent Japan, Washington guaranteed their defence in the Pacific. Britain was crudely told to keep quiet and stay out. The day when Prime Minister Blair would perform as Washington's pet dog had not yet dawned. The new power structure led to one sure thing, of course. From the Korean War of 1950 Japan's industrial comeback was assured. Indeed full co-operation by Australia and New Zealand in this latest rising of the Japanese sun was one of its main features. What else could be expected when booming Japanese industry placed large regular orders for the commodities of the two Dominions?

'There is an economic force at work that cannot be stopped by national borders'

Far from resurgent Japan threatening Australia or New Zealand it was far away Britain which bore the brunt. For rampant Japanese exporting methods sent shock waves through all those new Commonwealth markets (in Asia and Africa alike) capturing them hands down and reducing to utter ruin in about three years all Tory hopes of a world-wide array of secure British export markets.

Fortunately, the whole fatuous dream was at its worst when Ted Heath formed his Government. Desperate Tories long hostile or lukewarm towards Europe turned beseeching eyes towards the Common Market they had regularly scoffed. Driven out of 'their' Commonwealth Markets to Japanese shock tactics they had little option but to turn to Europe. And as we know, Heath negotiated entry to the Common Market in a relatively short time, helped by a friendly French Prime Minister, Pompidou.

But the 'odd-man out' is still the game played in Europe by British politicians. It is now becoming a dangerous game. One of Oswald Mosley's most far-sighted warnings was his prediction of 'a crisis of the whole System' in his autobiography *My Life* in 1968. That is what we have now, a crisis of one third of the World's economy, not including Britain and the rest of Europe, or USA, so

far.

So far - but there is an economic force at work likely to change matters that cannot be stopped by national borders. This is deflation the opposite to inflation but even more destructive. It was responsible for the World slump of the 1930s and many billions of unemployed.

The present crisis which began in Asia 18 months ago, led to deflation by way of collapsing currencies, and now many countries there have huge stocks of goods they cannot sell abroad, nor at home because inflation has destroyed consuming power. Sooner or later there will be ferocious competition to sell these enormous stocks. All these countries are deep in debt and the money lenders will demand their money. Prices will be slashed and so will wages. The greatest assault on Western wages since the war will begin. Typically, this is just the time when a Labour Government full of best intentions blunders again. Next April the Minimum Wage legislation comes into force. British goods produced at wages of £3.60 per hour will have to compete against sweatshop labour all over the Third World paying a few pence an hour. What is to be done?

Oswald Mosley never advocated windy universal remedies. He called instead for the complete union of Europe a Nation and the effective division of the world into several continental systems or trading blocks of the same size.

As he said at the time, let each Bloc made up of the same kind of people have basic requirements to create good living conditions without any interference from other Blocs.

But if Britain continues to follow outdated politicians full of the old dogma, the Britain will become a permanent failure, and the odd man out who never made it, top heavy with immigrants and a scrap heap for Europe.

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THE EUROPEAN DECLARATION OF VENICE 1962

THROUGH the centuries diverse Europeans talked and dreamed of uniting Europe as one. It was not achieved due to jealousies by religious schism and dynastic rivalries. It started many wars creating much suffering. Some tried to unite Europe by force of conquest and all attempts failed. The holocaust of the first World War led in turn to the final tragedy of the most of Europe in ruins at the end of the 1939-45 war.

This ultimate near suicide of the the European led wise men see that the once great European powers must never go to war with each other again and their thoughts turned towards that old dream of uniting Europe and foremost of these was Oswald Mosley. Although his 1930s thoughts were based on a self-contained Britain with her British Empire as the solution to our British problems he was by 1936 advocating European unity and in 1948, with Britain shorn of much of her power by that disastrous war, and her empire fading away, he declared for Europe a Nation at a meeting in London.

The future was to see him travelling throughout non-communist Europe debating with many his ideas for European unity, making common cause with many who had opposed the fascist and national socialist concept that swept through Europe between the wars.

His efforts led to a conference in Vienna in 1962 from which was published the Declaration of Venice, a 10-point policy to create Europe a Nation.

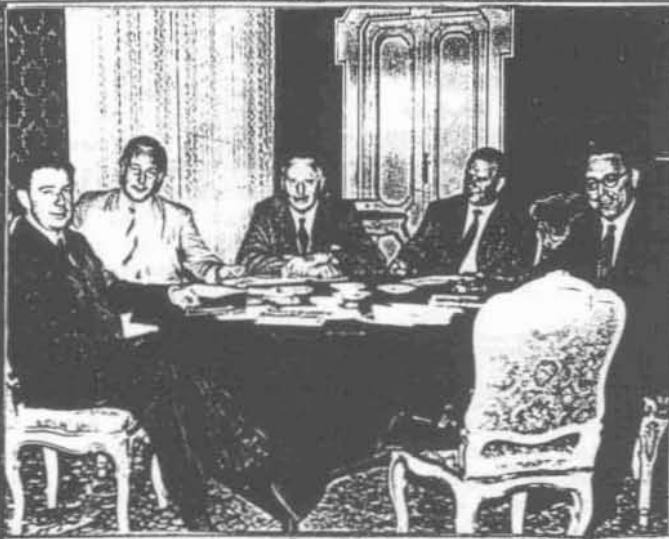
By Michael Quill

Republished here are the first eight points of that Declaration showing how Europe could have been developed for the benefit of all the European peoples instead of the fumbling, corrupt shambles we have today. (Points 9 and 10 have been omitted as they dealt with the development of Africa for the benefit of Europeans and Africans, then under the control of Europeans. That chance has been thrown away.)

The current state of European unity has little likeness to Mosley's Europe. Europe is run by a Commission that is a collection of political failures, not elected or responsible to anyone and unable to be removed individually until their term of office expires. The new Euro currency is to be controlled by unelected directors responsible only to the banks that appointed them. It is no wonder that the people do not count in today's Europe.

The Mosley way was right in the 1930s, was right in 1962 and would still be largely right today.

THE POLITICAL PARTY LEADERS THAT SIGNED THE DECLARATION OF VENICE. 1962



Photographed at a subsequent conference, are LtoR: Jean Thiriart of Belgium's M.A.C. and JEUNE-EUROPE; A. von Thadden of German's DEUTSCHES REICHSPARTEI; Sir Oswald Mosley of the UNION MOVEMENT; a delegate not a signatory of the Declaration, and Giovanni Lanfree of Italy's M.S.I.

WE being European conscious of the tradition which derives from classic Greece and Rome, and of a civilisation which during three thousand years has given thought, beauty, science and leadership to mankind, and feeling for each other the close relationship of a great family, whose quarrels in the past have proved the heroism of our peoples but whose division in the future would threaten the life of our continent with the same destruction which extinguished the genius of Hellas and led to the triumph of alien values, now declare with pride our European communion of blood and spirit in the following urgent and practical proposals of our new generation which challenges present policies of division, delay and subservience to the destructive materialism of external powers before which the splendour of our history, the power of our economy, the nobility of our traditions and the inspiration of our ideals must never be surrendered.

1. That Europe a Nation shall forthwith be a fact. This means that Europe shall have a common government for the purposes of foreign policy, defence, economic policy, finance and scientific development. It does NOT mean the Americanisation by a complete mixtures of the European peoples, which is neither desirable or possible.

2. That European government shall be elected by free vote of the whole people of Europe every four years at elections which all parties may enter. This vote shall be expressed in the election of a parliament which will have power to select the government and at any time to dismiss it by vote of censure carried by a two-thirds majority. Subject to this power of dismissal, government shall have full authority to act during its period of office in order to meet the fast moving events of the new age of science and to carry out the will of the people as expressed by their majority vote.

3. The national parliaments in each member country of Europe a Nation shall have full power over all social and cultural problems, subject only to the overriding power of European Government in finance and its other defines spheres, in particular the duty of economic leadership.

4. That the economic leadership of government shall be exercised by means of the wage-price mechanism, first to secure similar conditions of fair competition in similar industries by payment of the same wages, salaries, pensions and fair profits as science increases the means of production for an assured market, thus securing continual equilibrium between production and consumption, eliminating slump and unemployment and progressive raising the standard of life. Capital and credit shall be made available to the under-developed regions of Europe from the surplus at present expatriated from our continent.

5. The intervention by government at three key points of wages, prices where monopoly condition prevail, and the long purchase of agriculture and other primary products alone is necessary to create the third system of a producers state in conditions of a free society which will be superior both to rule by finance under American capitalism and to the rule by bureaucracy under communist tyranny. It is at all times our duty in the solidarity of the European community to assist each other to combat the destruction of European life and values from without and from within by the overt and covert attack of communism.

6. That industries already nationalised will be better conducted by workers' ownership or syndicalism than by state bureaucracy, but the system of the wage-price mechanism will, in full development, make irrelevant the question of the ownership of industry by means of the decisive economic leadership of elected government, and will bring such prosperity that workers will have no interest in controversies which belong to the nineteenth century.

7. With the creation of Europe a Nation as a third power strong enough to maintain peace, a primary object of the European government will be to secure the immediate and simultaneous withdrawal of both Russian and American forces from the occupied territories and military bases of Europe. Europe must be as strongly armed as America or Russia until mutual disarmament can be secured by the initiative of an European leadership which will have no reason to fear economic problems caused by disarmament, as has capitalist America, nor to desire the force of arms for purposes of imperialist aggression as does communist Russia.

8. The emergence of Europe as a third great power will bring to an end the political and military power of UNO, because these three great powers will then be able to deal directly and effectively with each other. The peace of the world can best be maintained by direct and continuous contact between these three great powers which represent reality instead of illusion and hypocrisy. The production of nuclear weapons will be confined to these three great powers until mutual disarmament can be secured.

The Government and General Pinochet

BY MICHAEL QUILL

One-time Soviet's Cold War agitators now middle-aged, middle-class,

THE snarling behaviour of some Labour MP's over the General Pinochet case reveals the extent of how Marxists still dominate the Labour Party.

'New Labour'? They know of course that the economics of Marx had failed wherever they have been tried so at least we can suspect they really have dished that ideology, an added spur their appreciation of the benefits of the financially comfortable in a Capitalist society. The posh restaurants, the swank night clubs, the expensive holidays especially when staying in someone's villa free of charge if you are a top of the tree Labour politician, and for relaxation from the stress of these activities how necessary and pleasing to return to a luxury house, well worth the market priced half-a-million or so.

In their new 'life of Riley' their pleasure became abounding when they heard that former Chilean President General Pinochet, regarded by many as a good friend Britain for his help in the Falkland War, had sought permission to come to Britain for an operation, rushing back came their student anti-capitalist days when they gave support to the Soviet Communist thrust to turn Chile into a satellite, aimed at the defensive strategy of America and Europe. Still smarting from that defeat by General Pinochet, and now with the power given them by the British electorate, how satisfying to conspire with their pals in Amnesty

sly, vengeful chair-bound

WARRIORS OF WESTMINSTER

New Labour - What's New?

to line up a 'red' magistrate in Spain to apply for the General's extradition to Spain to face a dubious 'trial'.

The warrant sent by the Spanish magistrate was incorrectly made out so friendly British foreign Office told them how to correct it. Foreign Secretary Robin Cook said it was dealt with by a junior officer in the F.O. He wasn't even told.

Poor Robin. All his attendance in the 1970s of anti-Pinochet student demos and with the chance of putting the boot in and he wasn't even told! But perhaps unjustly accuse, for he let it be known that he was 'an ethical Foreign Secretary'.

I believe the Government thought that the General would not be sent to Spain. After discharging their hate of the General came realisation of the damage they had done to British/Chile relations and to the worldwide respect of British morality and the rule of law built up through generations and inspired by better men than they.

The Judges would save them. Unfortunately two of the Law Lords were fugi-

tives from the wicked 'Apartheid' regime in South Africa, their idea of justice perhaps not in keeping with British tradition.

There is no such thing as international law. Their are international conventions that countries agree to incorporate into their own law. In Britain it has always been recognised that retrospective law did not serve the cause of justice.

There has however been one exception in recent years in Britain which many believe to have been a rejection of the integrity of our past.

Prime Minister Thatcher was persuaded by an influential minority, other Finchley constituents and American political pressure to change this law to enable millions of taxpayers money to be spent chasing a very few old Latvians to charge them with 'War Crimes' against unnamed Jews in Russia over 50 years ago. Needless to say, such a charge would normally be thrown out of a routine Court at its inception. This 'Thatcher law' has returned no doubt to haunt her as it has

been quoted by 'Amnesty' lawyers to justify the application of retrospective law against General Pinochet who Lady Thatcher claims is a good man and her friend.

But to return to 'New Labour'. Practically all the present crop of Labour leaders were out in Communist organised demos in the 1960s and 70s before they began to rise in the Labour ranks. They were against fighting in Vietnam but now cuddle up to the USA as tight as they can. They were against the Cruise missiles when they were pointed at Communist Russia but now support, with apparent pleasure, when the USA rains down these same advanced missiles on Irak. The Soviet was then strong and had her own missiles to hit back.

To be charitable one would wish that these one-time supporters of the communist ideology of control by terror had matured and found truth.

Their spite and vindictiveness to the ageing General suggests that these one-time so-called radicals who have risen to political power without in many cases experiencing the real world, have no further depth beyond their cosmetic role on the label of the 'New Labour' designer product applicable more to the High Street supermarket than the commanding heights of our nation state now held by these warriors of Westminster, one-time supporters of 'Cold War' communism.



Mr. Cook: protest to the Home Office?

MORE DOUBLE STANDARDS

MR ROBIN COOK, defending Foreign Office officials from attack by the House of Commons Select Committee on the arms to Sierra Leone scandal said on television news on February 2: "it would be completely wrong that anyone should be tried twice".

Two days later in the Sunday papers it was re-

ported that Home Office officials, Scotland Yard chiefs and MI5 agents met to discover any way that they could charge the five young men that had already been charged and acquitted of involvement in the death of a teenager.

New Labour - new double standards.

Late extra

THE LAW LORDS has 'passed' what was already a hot potato firmly back to the Home Secretary' says the Daily Telegraph, and 'hinted, as broadly as they could' that Mr Straw should use his wide discretion to return the General to his homeland.

Come on Jack Straw. Demonstrate that your Chilean student days left-wing causes are behind you and quickly send him home.

'Princess Tony mimics the leadership principle with his pansified parody on TV of a popular president, while manipulating the mass media, and controlling his own 'political correct' freaks behind the scenes writes writes **JAMES HEYGATE** on

Government reform

THERE is "a strong argument for having people from politics, medicine, the arts, the military and the church, who do not toe a party line, in an upper house..."

Andrew Lloyd Webber, Daily Express, 10 February 1999
"Lord Sainsbury was one of a handful of multi-millionaire business leaders who supported Mr Blair after he became Labour leader in 1994..."

Nicholas Watt, Guardian, 16 February, 1999

MOSLEY was never bound by "right" or "left". He advanced beyond these divisive labels with original policies in accord with eternal values. He trusted the majority of the British electorate, fairly supplied with full facts, always to choose good rather than evil, and that in government the "will of the people should prevail".

This was well exemplified by his proposals for the House of Lords outlined in *Tomorrow We Live* (1938) which contrast sharply with the dogs dinner dished up six decades later.

Mosley pointed out that the hereditary peerage once represented the predominant economic interest, which was agricultural, and that nowadays legislation needed expertise drawn from the nation as a whole.

There must therefore be a second chamber comprising representatives from every-industrial Trade Union and trade association, all religious denominations and the armed services, plus men and women distinguished by their conspicuous service in every walk of life.

"From such an assembly if personal experience and ability" he wrote, "Government can draw reserves of capacity for advice and constructive suggestion in all the multifarious variety of modern problems."

No "honours" bribery. No chamber packed with puppets and place-men. No cunning step towards disintegrating a united kingdom into a collection of multi-racial republics run by cronies and careerists.

Instead the British Union idea was like having a hundred fast-track top-quality royal commissions in continual session to assist a small cabinet steer the British people at home and overseas away from slump, war and cultural decay towards even greater world



Committed to global capitalism: Tony Blair

achievement.

Always committed to the "search for truth" above the electioneering games, Mosley would no doubt have invited participation, from among the original brains of the time, even some who had disagreed with him in the days of struggle: people like Lord Hewart, Maynard Keynes and Bertrand Russell. Rather than the outworn privileges of social class, he aimed at a true "aristocracy" of talent and patriotism, "government by the best".

Both Mosley and Blair have been accused of seeking to remove "the revising chamber" to enable a personal "elective dictatorship". The difference is that one sought a popular instrument of action to liberate the country from international finance, whereas the other is openly committed to global capitalism and funded rather less openly, by some of its sharper local exemplars. Princess Tony mimics the leadership principle-with his pansified parody on TV of a populist president, while manipulating the mass media, and controlling his own "politically correct" freaks, behind the scenes. His vacuous stage-rhetoric about "new" Labour and a "third" way only serves to conceal the latest tricks of a very old trade well-known to Mosley's comrades. Mosley was not only the greatest public speaker of the 20th Century Britain but also its most far-sighted and constructive statesman. For him to be written out even of major works of reference while a creature like Blair, with no

positive achievements whatever to his name, is already 'planning his "second term", is another measure of the decadence into which an antiquated parliamentary system, with its "trust fund" corruption and Middle East bomb-lobby, have reduced this once great imperial nation.

As workers even in hi-tech industries go the same way as miners and fishermen so the Blairites get into bed - literally in some cases, it seems - with the most parasitic elements of "sodomy and showbiz" capitalism. Saving the economy should be the first priority, not trashing the constitution.

The real problem today is not the fate of the old Lords and their hapless descendants, but what to do about the 'new unhappy lords' with 'bright dead alien eyes' who 'look at our labour and laughter as a tired man looks at flies'.

It may be we shall rise last as Frenchmen rose the first;
Our wrath come after Russia's wrath and our wrath be the worst.

It may be are meant to mark with our riot and our rest

God's scorn for all men governing. It may be beer is best.

But we are the people of ENGLAND: and we have not spoken yet.

Smile at us, pay us, pass us, But do not quite forget.

MY LIFE

BY

OSWALD MOSLEY

COMPULSIVE reading for those who wish to know and understand the political realities that have shaped the 20th century.

It charts the events from before World War 1 to 20 years after the end of World War 2, an era that saw the destruction of all our British people had built up over centuries, and it shows how things could have been different. Most important, it gives much in philosophy and economics that is still relevant today.

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IN MEMORIAM

ROY STONEHAM, 88, who has died in the West country was an early active Black-shirt in Streatham Branch until he moved to the provinces to start a business. He served during the war in the RAF and on release spent the future rebuilding his life and business taking no further part in politics. Until 3 years before his death when a reunion with old comrades was effected in unusual circumstances.

The editor and a colleague were visiting a London hotel when they were approached by a member of the staff who had learned of our connections. His father-in-law an old Blackshirt and still a 'Mosley man' wished to obtain a copy of *OMs My Life* and would be overjoyed if it could be autographed by Lady Mosley. We, and Lady Mosley could not refuse this request from such a loyal old comrade, and it was achieved, and remained in touch.

'Once a Blackshirt....' some times 'Once a Mosley Man...' is well known and understood by those who experienced that exhilarating time. To those who did not, which includes academics, historians and particularly the media hacks increasingly seeking the dwindling band of old Blackshirts to analyse their early motivation...

Think on it

PATRICIA FLOWERDEW, nee Hoggarth, and CHARLES YOUNGMAN who have died were members of Ronald Creasy's Suffolk Branch of British Union. He writes: Both never faltered in the cause. They both gave freely whatever the opposition, giving their time when asked, day or night.

Mrs Flowerdew's family included a sister and two brothers who were Suffolk British Union members.

Her brother George Hoggarth was Creasy's District Treasurer, a Standard Bearer at the Earls Court Peace Meeting in July 1939, and was detained without charge or trial under the 18B Regulations during the war.

MORE OBITUARIES

on pages 11 and 12

WHAT'S IN A NAME

BY
JAMES BRYCE

VAINGLORIOUS politicians are by no means a new phenomenon. Few today can equal the one time deputy leader of the Labour Party, Herbert Morrison.

Appointed Minister of Transport in McDonald's 1929 Government this vindictive man actively opposed Mosley's call when Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, to help the unemployed by initiating a massive road building programme that would have taken at least three quarters of a million men off the dole. By siding with other government sloths such as Thomas and Snowden together with the unrepresentative trade union block voting system Mosley was defeated and the workless figures continued to rise.

When the electorate turned to Stanley Baldwin a year later, Morrison was swept out of office. He then turned his attention to the London County Council becoming its leader.

During this period he also reigned as M.P. for South Hackney but in 1938 he announced his vacation of the once safe Labour seat to stand at East Lewisham at the next election due in 1940 if war had not prevailed but was duly elected in the 1945 post-war Election.

Fled from East London

The significance of his remarkable retreat from South Hackney was that a year before Mosley's Blackshirt candidates had received significant support in the adjoining areas of East London and his visits to East Hackney had revealed a growing unpopularity.

So this marketed 'man of the people' with the trade mark quiff, this 'Cockney Sparrow', this one-time shop assistant and telephone operator had turned flat and fled.

This did not, come the 1939 war disadvantage his political advancement, even if he was soon disposed as Minister of Supply in favour of Lord Beaverbrook in Churchill's



HERBERT MORRISON, later Lord Morrison of Lambeth. A 'conchie' in World War 1 he was, as Home Secretary Mosley's jailor in World War 2, without a charge, without trial.

Now better known as Peter Mandelson's grandad.

National Government.

This did not however signify Morrison's demise for Churchill, under pressure from the Labour Party's agreement to participate in wartime apphim in 1940 Home Secretary and using the weasel words 'Fifth Column' continued the policy of locking up without charge or trial, hundreds of loyal British subjects who had been his political opponents under the catch all overnight Emergency 18B Regulation.

Newly released files at the Public Record Office confirm the vindictiveness of this little man which had been suspected for a long time. Using the dictatorial granted him when passing the Act by an unsuspecting House of Commons he held uncharged detainees in prison and concentration camp for months and years after independent tribunals had recommended release.

By the Second World War the wheel for Morrison had turned full circle. He was not in favour of the first war and of military age had registered as a 'conchie'. Not for him however the at least honourable cell in Wormwood Scrubs. He instead opted for a job of national importance in a Kent orchard and while wiling away that war pruning the apple trees many of the men he kept incarcerated in the second holocaust - one third of them bemedaled ex-servicemen of that



ALONG the Wandsworth Road. One wonders if Peter Mandelson has been known to 'pop' in for a pint.

war - were shredding their blood for Britain's sake in the horrors of Flanders fields.

Even war'lord Churchill, who loathed Morrison, in private betrayed his repugnance in the light of extensive wartime investigation and interrogation of detainees allowed no defence, and despite prolonged efforts by those vested interests with a Mosley hate axe to grind, no proof that British Union members were ever disloyal to their country has been forthcoming. Indeed to the contrary. The names of British Union members who paid the supreme sacrifice even if in disagreement with their country's war, enshrined in the British Union Roll of Honour, is symbolic of this truth.

Loathed by Bevin and Churchill

With Labour's landslide victory in 1945 Morrison harboured thoughts of one day leading the party. He never did, one of those who obstructed his design being former TUC boss, wartime Minister of Labour and post-war Foreign Secretary Ernest Bevin who like Churchill loathed Morrison. He did however 'crown' his career by succeeding Bevin as Foreign Secretary, presiding over the Foreign Office during the defection to the Soviet Union of communist spies Burgess and Maclean.

Mosley summed him up devastatingly in his biography: 'He was totally unfitted by natural aptitude or experience for national administration. He was a narrow, ridged, vain little beurocrat, devoid of vision and incapable of movement beyond

his official stool'

Today his name rings no bells. No aroused passions. No television series charts his life. Morrison WHO.

It is only in connection with his grandson Peter Mandelson, his recent forced departure the Government team and his ill-fated Dome that can trigger the memory of his grandfather being in charge of the 1951 South Bank Exhibition.

At least some consolations came his way. Created a Life Peer in 1959 he was was later, in 1962 invited to pull the first pint in the LORD MORRISON OF LAMBETH public house in Wandsworth Road, Lambeth.

It did not long outlive him. It is now THE RED STILETTO. Surely a case of history putting in the boot.

It did not long outlive him. It is now THE RED STILETTO.

Surely a case of history putting in the boot.

COMRADE

It has kept alive the Mosley message and there is still much to do. Those very few of the old guard who now remain and are able to do so, will, with the help of younger dedicated comrades, continue to reveal the truth on the history of Mosley's men and women. There is still much to do to project that example of the quality and sacrifice of those, come what may, who fought the good fight for Britain and Mosley, to be an inspiration to those new generations who in renaissance strive to build a nobler society. We thank our readers whose generosity has ensured that Comrade goes on.

CYRIL PLASKETT

CYRIL PLASKETT, who has died at 87, was one of four founder members in Bow of East London's first British Union branch in Bow 1933. It was to become the Movement's largest branch. From that day forward Cyril's life became totally dedicated to first, British Union and to Mosley until his dying day.

Being adjacent to Stepney, an area unfriendly to those working class East Londoners who believed in Britain for the British, this first East London Branch soon came under sustained physical attack on its members and on its street meetings from organised Red gangs. But not for long for the Blackshirts, determined not to be driven off the streets fought back, and the locals, seeing the predominately looking exponents of attempted mob law flocked in droves to the Blackshirts banner and drove the majority of the Red mobs back to whence they came, the extent of their courage being middle-of-the-night attempts to fire British Union branch offices.

Soon, founder member and District Leader **Mick Clarke**, also to become Cyril's life-long friend, opened new premises for the expanding branch, now N/E Bethnal Green, in Green Street, to become a part of British Union lore. At the end of the war it received a symbolism in What Hope for Green Street, a pessimistic work of fiction on pre-war East End life by Olive Hawks, a pre-war British Union Women's leader.

With the new premisses obtained from a friendly shop owner, 150 members immediately enrolled say Cyril in a taped recording before his death. It had a hall holding 200 at the back and later this was not large enough for the over-flowing Annual General Meetings. Three street meetings at nearby Victoria Park Square were held weekly at which main speaker Mick

IN MEMORIAM

DUE to the intermittent publication of **COMRADE** in the last 2 years, the obituaries of some old comrades who died have not been published, but not forgotten. We now remember them for their courage and devotion to Mosley's cause.



Cyril
Plaskett



Harry
Whitbread



Fred
Charles

Clarke never addressed crowds less than the police estimate of 3,000. This constant activity led to Mosley's first meetings in East London when in 1936 he addressed crowds of 100,000, without loud speakers, in Finsbury and Victoria Parks.

In 1935 was promoted District Inspector and Cyril District Leader in his place to be followed in 1937 by Cyril's promotion to District Inspector when Mick was promoted to staff of National Headquarters. It was during this period that under Cyril's leadership Blackshirt candidates achieved 23% of the vote in their first electoral attempt, the London County Council Elections, a considerable achievement considering only the older 'householders' were permitted the vote.

For 5 years Cyril Plaskett led his members with superb courage, a mark of this ability being that with the departure of charismatic Mick Clarke activity and support for Mosley in Bethnal Green did not diminish but increased. He also found time for he and his members to give support to other districts on special occasions and formed the Bethnal Green Drum Corps.

Memories within his recorded memoirs are to numerous to fully mention but that he was once dep-

Turn to page 12

FRED CHARLES MBE
E.Inst.E

WITH the death abroad of **FRED CHARLES**, 81, Friends of O.M. has lost its last known survivor of Oswald Mosley's early New Party which he had joined when he was 16.

At the birth of the BUF he joined its Limehouse Branch and became assistant ward leader in this well organised District, he and his team selling the weekly Action door-to-door. He was a very active member and was present at all the large major London meetings.

In 1937 British Union announced its first 100 Prospective Candidates for the (without the war) 1940 General Election, and as Mosley had not announced his own Candidature, and as Limehouse was still vacant it was strongly rumoured that he would stand for this fastest growing branch.

After achieving 16% of the vote in the 1937 London County Council Elections at its first electoral attempt, the standing MP in this once safe Labour seat, **Clement Attlee**, Leader of the Labour Party got himself nominated for West Walthamstow, winning the seat in the 1945 post-war election, and becoming Prime Minister. Fred Charles had received prior notice of Attlee's seeking another nomination from a local Labour Party Councillor, later to join British Union,

HARRY WHITBREAD

SUDDENLY on Boxing Day last at his home in Sussex, **HARRY WHITBREAD**, 83, died.

In the 1930s Whitbread lived in that area of Brixton which might be identified by an editorial decision not to do so, because of the legal implications involved in true and honest reporting in late 20th Century Britain.

He had taken his time to join British Union. For about 2 years, he has said, he had listened to the speakers at the local street meeting pitches, Rushcroft Road and Brockwell Park and in 1937 took the plunge and joined, "and by 1938" he said in his 'memoirs', "I was a very active member indeed, and at times I was not involved locally and heard of BU

Turn to page 12

that Attlee had told the local Labour Party he would do so if "they could not reduce the local British Union activity and get him more help".

Come the war his house was searched and he was aggressively questioned by the police but not detained and he later served with the Royal Ulster Rifles for two years until his medical discharge.

After the war he opened a restaurant in Walton-on-Thames and arranged public meetings there, including one at which Mosley spoke. He also joined Kingston Branch of Union Movement.

In 1956 he emigrated with his family to a British Dominion and worked for a Government authority for which he was decorated for his technical services.

He kept in touch with old Limehouse comrades, in Britain and overseas and heard of the birth of FOM and made contact with 'Once with Mosley, ever with him', a sentiment he yearly endorsed on the night of the Commemoration Dinner.

From across the seas, from across the years, with a glass held high, "The Leader".

So long old comrade.

11 Cyril Plaskett

utilised with another to collect a large donation for the Movement from Lady Houston. He was nearby Mosley and heard Commissioner of Metropolitan Police Sir Philip Game ask Mosley for the march to be called off at the so-called 'battle of Cable Street'. He was by the van when Mosley was knocked unconscious by a brick at Liverpool. What is of factual and historical interest is the occasion when Cyril with 200 stewards went to a large meeting in 'Red' Wales. A hell of a battle? Not at all said Cyril. 'No trouble - We got the audience to sing Land of our Fathers'!

A former railway worker

he had trained as a metallurgist and was arrested at his workplace in 1940 and taken to Brixton Prison where he was put through empty bath to comply with rules, the next day meeting and shaking hands with OM and others. He next spent over 2 years in jails and concentration camps without charge or trial. On release he took up again his trade and Special Branch intervened to try and get him sacked. But his foreman stood by him and Cyril carried on with firm for many years.

After the war Cyril did not again become active in political work but supported the policy of Union Movement. He was a regular reader of Comrade

and attended all FOM functions with his wife of 57 years Peggy who has our very deep sympathy. Those present at our functions will recall the effort required to assist the physically failing Cyril to be present.

On his death she said she will remember how Cyril is remembered "For his love of Mosley, the Movement and all things honest and true". All that has been said in this obituary cannot improve on that.

But would add a final word from his brother-in-law George Renshaw, a life long Bethnal Green Mosley supporter who pays tribute to Cyril, Mick Clarke, Dicky Bullivant

Old Comrades



and Cyril's cousin Bill Harper, together at the start and became friends. "Cyril was always a Mosley Man right up until he died. He has now joined his other comrades who put Britain first and believed in a just cause. That we were right and history will prove us so. God Bless them All"

11 Harry Whitbread

marches and the like in other London areas I was there". As the war clouds gathered he was a Standard Bearer at Mosley's giant Peace Meeting at Earls Court in July 1939.

Outside politics he had become a member of an Air Raid Precautions team and returning from a duty in 1940 he heard of the gathering storm of detention of BU members and he immediately went to Branch headquarters and destroyed all the membership records for which many would have been eternally grateful (except we in FOM researching BU history for posterity!)

Just in time he thought as shortly after he was detained in Brixton Prison, and ten days later transferred to Walton Gaol of which he gained his first experience of what his future prison incarceration might entail.

Alone in his small dingy cell the silence was broken by voices and he tried to mount to his cell small window to find out who and what was going on. He was 'caught' by a warder and although he had not been charged with breaking any laws, and was not even on remand, he was then charged with 'Creating a Disturbance' and sentenced to 7

days bread and water.

He was then transferred to Ascot then Huyton where he was closeted with a small BU group including one George Arnold news came of an impending move to the Isle of Man, all except Whitbread who was to go to Durham Prison which he did not appreciate. It so happened that for domestic reasons Durham would suit Arnold, so they changed identities and Whitbread got his IOM and Arnold his Durham. As was bound to happen, Arnold being an older man, three weeks later Durham discovered the 'switch' and for Harry another charge and 14 days in the cells of IOM prison.

But before then whilst at Huyton Concentration Camp, Whitbread had risked future authorities harassment. With Limehouse member Desmond Ambrose he had built the ladder to mount the barbed wire fence to enable Limehouse's Arthur 'Wakey' Mason make the first of his two escapes from concentration camps. (Comrade 13 'My First Escape')

When released from detention late in the war, although not participating in BU activity, which was illegal, he actively remained in contact with old comrades. With OM's launch of the Mosley Book Clubs after the war he

joined the South London Book Club and in 1948 with the birth of Union Movement became Brixton Organiser. Later he married and worked abroad for a time, not returning to active politics but retaining a political interest and contact with his old comrades who had crossed his path in his exciting younger years.

John Christian writes: My friend and comrade Harry Whitbread is the last of a long line of young Blackshirts whom I knew personally in those unforgettable British Union days and was typical of those young men who inspired by Mosley were full of hope for what they believed they could achieve to make our country a Greater Britain. With a smile on their lips they advanced to face all opposing forces, whether it was the power of government, large vested interests or the street violence of the Red mobs, and nevertheless, despite what those same interests have alleged over half-a-century, they did not hate. They just stood, unwilling to sacrifice their beliefs for an easy life, and fought back.

Harry was indeed the mildest of men who preferred talking to fighting. But if in the end it had to be, he was there.

I lost touch with him

when he went to work abroad, and he had also found himself a wife. We next met some 15 years later and met monthly for a pint. Shortly after he moved to Sussex he attended FOM's first small social in an East London pub and had since remained in regular telephone contact; more so in our both declining years. In our last talk a few days before his death when he was apparently in good form, he took me to task, as was his wont, for my smoking habit - 'You will live to the Millennium', a particular form of humour and affection perhaps confined to the English, and British Union.

My deepest sympathy goes to Harry's Maureen, who though not a political 'animal' has grown to understand that unique bond between her husband and his BU comrades.

And on the night of the Millennium, if the God's permit, when the rest of our nation is apparently going to go off its head in artificial sentiment, I shall raise my glass, and a cigarette, "To Harry". I can see his smile and hear his voice. That is enough.

To old comrades, To Mosley, To England, To Britain, To Europe. They were true.

COMRADE

Incorporating ACTION and UNION

Newsletter of Friends of Q.M.



No. 51

'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'

August 1999

Much political capital is made by the present administration about the difference between old and new Labour. As Robert Row reminds us little has really altered beyond a sharper style of sound bites coupled with selective vindictiveness

NEW LABOUR A COSMETIC CHANGE

BY ROBERT ROW

'Dead fish rot from the head down' as Sir Oswald Mosley used to say, and the present Blair government is a good example.

There has always been a strong whiff of dead red herrings about Labour administrations, and adding 'new' to the old name made no difference when Tony Blair added a few new tricks. One Labour trait that has remained very much alive is its built in fondness for the enemies of this country.

exchange. The IRA godfathers know that Blair is soft through and through, and have planned their strategy accordingly. Just as dead fish go soft and limp.

No similar tenderness was shown, on the other hand, towards British paratroopers giving evidence to the 'Bloody Sunday' inquiry, and refused by the Government the right of anonymity granted automatically to a variety of, criminal witnesses in English civil courts. Luckily the High Court overturned their

That list will be acted upon on the inevitable day the IRA again declares 'war' on Britain. And who will do the killings? Who else but the convicted IRA murderers set free by Blair, totally unfit to run a loony bin full of idiots, never mind Britain.

Next in importance to Britain's enemies on Labour's list of important celebrities are the international heroes of Marxism. And those who frustrate their knavish schemes are damned many times over.

Such is General Pinochet, blackguarded by all the bosses of the Labour Party because he was AN ALLY OF THIS COUNTRY, UNDER MRS THATCHER, IN THE FALKLANDS WAR. However his real offence was to save his country from a Communist take-over.

Pinochet was a senior army officer in Chile getting on with his military career, when the Marxist leader Allende seized power by means of a rigged election (much the same thing happened in Spain in 1936 leading to a civil war there). In the more recent case of Chile, however, there was another glaring example nearer home. Castro's seizure of power in 1959, which started in traditional communist fashion with hundreds shot at the 'wall of executions' in Havana, Cuba.

Ever fanciful to traditional Marxist practice whenever any country is marked down for take over, the next stage was thousands of violent leftists flocking to Chile - until Pinochet and other leading patriots crushed Allende's regime. And what a howl of protest when up from Labour then.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7

MOSLEY NOT MAU MAU

English Heritage, the body responsible for the commemorative blue plaque scheme is to honour two of the most despotic African leaders of the 20th Century. Jomo Kenyatta who lived for many years in this country, later headed the Kenyan terrorist organisation Mau Mau.



A UNION MOVEMENT STALWART REMINDS THE PUBLIC OF CRIMES LEFT UNPUNISHED

Emperor Haile Salassie, another recipient of English hospitality is also due to be honoured. During his long reign over Abyssinia (now Ethiopia) The gun and machete ruled together with the 'normal' imprisonment without trial, institutionalised torture and summary execution. Anthony Eden's League of Nations friends ignored the most barbaric acts of

CONTINUED ON PAGE 7



OLD LABOUR? NEW LABOUR? NO! TRUE LABOUR
OSWALD MOSLEY LABOUR M.P FOR SMETHWICK
TOGETHER WITH GEORGE LANSBURY AND THE MAYORS
OF SHOREDITCH, POPLAR AND BETHNAL GREEN SPEAK IN
TRAFALGAR SQUARE

Convicted IRA killers for instance found that Labours overpraised Good Friday agreement could open prison gates like magic without those murderers being obliged to turn in one gun in

decision.

This is the old Labour hatred for the British Army at work again, though it is blindingly clear the result will be a 'hit-list' for future revenge killings by the IRA.

Kosova The First Casualty Truth

Whilst no one need feel any sympathy for the President of Yugoslavia, the last Communist ruler in Europe, we cannot help but feel for the shame and disgrace that 'loud-mouth Blair' has brought on Britain.

The attack on Yugoslavia was manufactured by Blair who wanted to pose as a 'tough guy' and 'lame duck' Clinton who wanted a distraction from his own sexual exploits. It was true that the Serbs were dealing very roughly with the KLA. The KLA was a terrorist organisation carrying out a policy of assassinations and then being hidden by the Albanian civilians. The KLA was led by criminals that were the principle agents for flooding Europe with Heroin. It was stated on the BBC To-day programme by a Swedish Police Chief that 95% of the Brown Heroin trade in Europe was controlled by Kosovan Albanians.

So Blair and Clinton saying they wanted to 'avert a humanitarian disaster' started to bomb Yugoslavia and Kosova. In reply the Serbs turned really rough with the Albanians thus the humanitarian disaster was created, chiefly by Blair and Clinton.

Then those two nonentities Cook and Robertson began their propaganda campaign. Cook changed Milosevic from a life long Communist to a Fascist overnight. Then he claimed to have killed 10,000 Serb soldiers, his fellow Minister Robertson said that half the Serb tanks were destroyed. Anyone who thinks that you can hit a tank flying 3 miles up in the air at hundreds of miles per hour and score a direct hit except by luck must be a very naive person.

After the Russians had joined a Peace deal and the NATO troops went in these lies and all the other lies were exposed. In addition why has the Government refused an enquiry into just how the war was conducted with special reference to the accuracy of all those bombs. Is a 'Suez' cover up in the making? As they were not finished yet, after three days in Kosova they announced that the Serbs had killed 10,000 Albanians. They even had a couple of chaps from Scotland Yard to investigate, a pity we still have so many unsolved murders in London they could have worked on. Still they have to find an alibi for starting the war.

A LOOK AT THE GREAT MASTERS OF MUSIC

Richard Wagner

Apart from being one of the greatest musicians of all time Richard Wagner gave expression to philosophical ideals that still are relevant today. In his search for a regeneration from the decadence he saw around him at the time of the birth of industrial capitalist system he wrote of the effects that the food we eat had on our attitudes and our detachment from 'the eternally natural'. This thinking pre-dates the thinking of our own Jorian Jenks, a founder of the Soil Association that has led to the now popular 'organic food' discussions.

Nothing that Wagner has written throws such light upon his inmost soul as his essay on Vivisection. Here, he not only attacks the dogma of utilitarianism which dominates our entire civilisation but he proposes instead, as the moral principle of life, 'sympathy will all that lives'. In a way this could be said to anticipate the Animal Rights, unfortunately some sections of that group do not follow another part of Wagner philosophy that calls for a religion of love, instead they spread hatred and destruction.

Wagner wrote 'What is it that destroys our civilisation, if it is not want of love? How can the youthful mind learn to love the world as it unfolds itself before him, whilst we continue to inculcate nothing but caution and suspicion in his dealings there with?'

The establishment intellectuals dismiss Wagner as a anti-semitic, and ordinary people never get to know the depth of his thinking. As we show above his thinking was very profound and anticipated much of what is the modern issues. Certainly the decadence that Wagner worried about, is still with us. Drug taking, violence and a killing nearly everyday, a record number of divorce and teenage pregnancy. All things inspired and fuelled by money making film and TV industries that show everything in terms of sex and violence.

Martin Moloney

Hypocrisy

In a recent documentary shown on the Welsh language television S4C, Lance Rogers, an ex-member of the Communist led International Brigade was interviewed about one of the many B.U.F. meetings held in Wales.

"... an attempt was made to overthrow the lorry in which they were attempting to address the crowd that was there. The stones soon began to be thrown and there was a lot of injuries ..."

"I think that delivered the final message to the thugs that were the Blackshirts as the time that there was no place for them in Merthyr".

These verbatim quotes aptly throw light on just who were the thugs and stone throwers at Mosley meetings. The British Union would hardly have grown into such a large and respected organisation in the principality had they lowered themselves to such tactics.

WANTED

Private collector
wishes to purchase a
first edition of
STUKA PILOT
By Hans Ulrich Rudel

Home Sweet Home

First it was Stalins daughter Svetlana who decided that life in the West was favourable to a privileged existence in the workers paradise. Now Sergei Khrushchev the son of Nikita, the man who took the world to the brink of nuclear disaster over the Cuban crisis has discovered he 'feels at home' in America.

Despite being 'Russian Royalty' these two siblings decided the west offered a better life. What would their parents have thought had they still been around? Perhaps a few days and nights in the notorious Lubianka, prison, torture chamber, execution site and charnel-house might have sharpened up such wayward thinking. With the continued uncovering of horrific details about life in the Soviet Union under Stalin is it too much to ask our own home grown fellow travellers and apologists to at least answer the stories emerging from the long closed archives. Better still why not some government subsidised one way tickets for those who still carry the flame. Go now comrades, your country needs you.

JM

IT'S GOOD TO BE GREEN..... BUT NOT NAIVE

THERE has been a lot of hysteria lately about GM, genetically modified food. The perceived danger is that cross pollination to other vegetation could upset the balance of nature. To challenge nature in this way is an uncertain project. The wide-spread use of chemicals has also led to problems.

Why is it happening? What's it all about? If we look to the USA where these large chemical companies are based we can see their plan. Massive acreage of crops being produced at costs that small family farms cannot compete with, that are then supplied to the giant national chains, who drive out the small shop-keepers. All choice for consumers will be a thing of the past.

The 'reform' of the EU Common Agriculture Policy, now being proposed, will make it harder still for family farms to continue, we are fast getting to the basics of the Marxist state, giant farms producing inferior crops that are distributed through a few big outlets. The only difference being that it would not be state controlled, it would be controlled by the big money men.

Green-peace, Friends of the Earth and other protest groups will shout and demonstrate but will have no effect against the international financial power that calls the tune. A small recent example, the USA government used the World Trade Organisation to threaten sanctions against Britain and France unless we bought our bananas from the US Corporations rather than from our former colonies in the Caribbean.

The one and only answer to all these problems is to withdraw from international free trade.

In a United Europe we can have our traditional Farms and food. Break up the chains of super-markets who are now shown as robbers and encourage the return of our traditional shops.

British farmers can grow all the food we need here in Britain. All that is needed is to change our economic system, so that it works for the people and not for the financiers.

This was first published
in hard back by
Euphorion in 1952.

Please send details of
condition and price to F.O.M.,
101, Orwell Court, Pownell
Road, London. E8 4PP

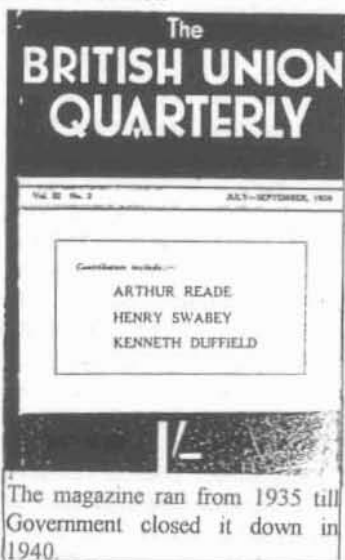
THE BRITISH UNION QUARTERLY

For generations the Left wing have claimed the political high ground with publications such as *New Statesman* and *Tribune*. It has often been easily, too easily forgotten that Mosley in January 1935 launched a publication that more than matched the drip-fed intellectual justification of all things left of centre. With writers such as Chesterton, Beckett, Thomson, Fuller, Hart, Leaper etc. the standard of intellectual acumen was more than met.

When the movement led by Oswald Mosley burst onto the British scene in the 1930s with its unique and urgent programme for national revival, it attracted men and women of character and intelligence from towns and villages all over the country.

Challenging the commercial exploitation of decadence, and rapidly outstripping in membership the Communist Party, whose agents and sympathisers were long established among the gullible 'intelligentsia' and its alien-subsidised media, Mosley's movement soon developed its own alternative press and literature. New intellectuals emerged from the workers, businessmen, ex-servicemen and university folk, who made their original and creative contribution to the pamphlets, journals and books of British Union.

This is well illustrated by the Fascist - later British Union - *Quarterly*, launched in 1935 to express the 'spiritual impetus of a world movement which is the most modern declaration of the genius of the West', and closed down in 1940 by government censorship-despite its constructive proposals for the emergency defence of the United Kingdom against invasion. This quality periodical published many brilliant articles on politics, economics, foreign policy and



The magazine ran from 1935 till Government closed it down in 1940. Cultural trends by writers whose opinions were increasingly excluded from the so-called 'free' or 'democratic' newspapers, public meeting-places and broadcasting facilities.

It is an interesting fact, which has been largely smothered or misrepresented in the 'historical record', that some of the very finest and already famous minds of that period also came forward as BU supporters or writers, several of whom appear in this selection; the truth at least.

The highly decorated General Fuller, for example, was the foremost strategic analyst and military historian of his generation, farsighted advocate of

rapid tank warfare and then of advanced aircraft for defending the Empire against Soviet Russia and if necessary Japan, and eminent author of over forty outstanding works before he died in 1966.

British Union Quarterly remains notable not only for the intellect, erudition and vigour of its writers but for their common moral integrity.

A contemporary right-wing critic, Douglas Jarrold, had to admit that Mosley was one of the few people telling the truth in English politics and whose publications alone reported what was 'really happening' across Europe; and the left-wing historian, Professor Taylor, more recently called Mosley the greatest political thinker of our age. The former Cabinet Minister Richard Crossman commented in the 1960s that, if history be respected as a defender of western civilisation against the Yellow Peril.

To withdraw from our present junk-culture of dirt and disease, rap-jumping and computer-porn, into the clean and healthy world of the Mosley journals is more than a refreshing bath in nostalgia.

They have been rescued from the 'memory hole' of our common enemies, and they stand as a source of ideas and idealism, as first commissar-communism and now finance-capitalism collapse around us, for the reconstruction to come.

J.B. Heygate

Plinth Problem

News Item: Sir John Mortimer has been made chairman of the Government's advisory plinth panel.

In the north corner of Trafalgar Square a plinth has remained vacant for the past 150 years. New Labour is at last tackling this major problem. Situated in the shadow of South Africa House a statue of Nelson Mandela might well be the politically correct solution. However, with the land he 'freed' free falling into anarchy perhaps a longer view should be taken. At the moment the public are being treated to 'Ecce Homo' a statue of Christ to be followed by a giant bronze 'Regardless of History' and then an upsidedown cast of the plinth! The obvious choice would be to commemorate the father of Europe a Nation. In the post-war years Sir Oswald Mosley spoke twelve times in the Square.



We know the future is with us and Mosley will be honoured.

To help the plinth panel COMRADE gives a preview of what the completed statue would look like. We think the committee need look no further.

The book, *The Man Who was 'M'* (Grafton Books) is long since out of print but still worth the effort of hunting down in a public library or second hand book shop. If only as a timely reminder of just some of the forces waged against Mosley in his struggle for a Greater Britain

Martin Moloney

MOSLEY SPEAKS

Enjoy the full impact of a British Union meeting in one of the few surviving pre-war location recordings.

Speech. Music. Singing.

All captured on a 45 R.P.M. remastered disc issued with the leaders approval in 1974 to commemorate the 40th anniversary of Mosley's first great Albert Hall meeting on 22nd April 1934. Available post free for just £5.00.

Write to F.O.M. 101, Orwell Court, Pownell Road, London. E8 4PP.

Uncle Max

One of the first books I ever received at Christmas was 'Uncle Max' famous for 'Nature Parliament', a BBC radio programme broadcast for children. In later life I was to find 'Uncle Max' was in fact famous, not just as a professional animal lover, he was of course Maxwell Knight a leading light in MI5, the real spy master who had inspired Ian Fleming's model for 'M' James Bond's mysterious boss.

Ian Fleming along with Dennis Wheatley were to become great friends with Knight. It was Wheatley the thriller writer and enthusiast for the occult who introduced Knight to the 'Great Beast' Alistair Crowley, infamous

for his practice of Black Magic. Crowley was later to become an MI5 agent. Wheatley had met Crowley through Tom Driberg a notorious homosexual and Labour MP. Knight used Driberg as an agent in the Communist Party. These then were some of the men who collaborated with Knight in defence of a rotten system. What were the dangers they were defending Britain against?

Mainly it was the BUF headed by Sir Oswald Mosley doing what he could to keep Britain out of an unnecessary war and protecting the British Empire. Our secret police, MI5 went along with a morally bankrupt Government involving us in a war that left a waste land, tied to the wheels of international finance.

THE LONG ROAD TO UNION

A RALLY FOR MOSLEY

'A policy for the present - an idea for the future, 110,000 words of constructive thought' With this slogan Mosley's book setting out his thinking on tackling the post-war problems of Great Britain in the context of European Union was launched in October 1947 it was entitled *The Alternative*

From the time of the Peace Meeting, called by the British Union, in July 1939, to stop the blundering drift to war, the events simply confirmed every tenet and clause of the B.U. Policy. As Mosley repeatedly pointed out, there was no vital British interest involved on the Eastern marches of Europe.

In 1947, Mosley wrote the first of his ideas on how the new circumstances, at the end of the war, were to be coped with.

He may have born in mind the dictum of Keynes, that everything accomplished is an Alternative and not simply something Tagged on to the failures of the past.

The ending of the catastrophic conflict in 1945 found our country severely weakened, the Empire in process of dissolution, and hollow words of the old gang party system, that all would be well, the welfare state without the resources to support it; a slogan of Export or Die in the terms of trade. The total collapse of the economy was only prevented by loans from the United States.

Mosley's book **THE ALTERNATIVE** showed how a completely new policy was essential. The book was ignored by the media and the whole of the press.

There was a fatuous comment by a Mr. Herbert Morrison, a prominent member of the Labour Government, that he had heard 'that Mosley was writing a book'. The inference was, from the Apple-picker of the 1st world war, that in the case of Oswald Mosley, that was a criminal offence.

In fact the only reference to the book, in review, was by Middleton Murry, the pacifist philosopher, in the magazine *The Adelphi*. Middleton Murry wrote that in his opinion, Oswald Mosley showed in his book, that he had learned from the past, and, Murry went on, did indeed want to advocate a policy that went far beyond both finance-capitalism and Communism. The closely argued text showed the pathway ahead. The new policy was expressed as: **THE EXTENSION OF PATRIOTISM** in many meetings

BY DESMOND IRVINE

the themes developed. At a meeting in East London in 1948, Mosley inspired his listeners by proclaiming: "OUR AIM IS EUROPE A NATION OUR FAITH IS EUROPEAN SOCIALISM" This idea attracted great attention in the thoughtful circles of Europe. An idea which had awaited its time: The Renaissance concept of Europa, with the abilities of Science and Technics to bring it about. Only the hidebound old parties in Parliament contrived to ignore these matters.

sweated labour in ... a global economy. Many of Britain's present troubles arise from The Fact that the old parties held back from reality; pretending that the competitive world trade system would work alongside the belated union of Europe.

The life of Sir Oswald Mosley reflected that nature which Bernard Shaw ascribed to him long ago "the repugnance to mean and cruel dealings". In his biography, Mosley pointed out the fact that the neurosis of this age is that man had released the forces of nature just as he has become separated from nature. The movement founded by him always showed a greater understanding of this than any of the fragmented factions including the present 'Green Party'.

The present political confusion shows that old gang alignments are futile and impotent. The present



Epping and Wanstead branch of Union Movement interest a customer in the newly published hard back edition of **THE ALTERNATIVE**

In the years of his travels in Europe, Mosley was able to demonstrate that new thinking was essential, if, as he put it, the Fatherland of Europe was not to be lost forever.

It is now time for a good look round, here in our homeland, to see what it is exactly, the old gang offer.

The file-clip marked 'NEW' is today the most used tag for each of the big parties in Parliament. Also the strangely applied term 'Third Way'. The Global market, in itself, is simply the old world trading system redressed to prevent the simple plain fact that it is the old commerce based ultimately on

times will see the new political groupings which will transcend the stagnant stasis of the current House of Commons.

Long ago, in the early days of the movement, Mosley wrote a critique on the necessity for a new alignment for the divided national parties; he quoted Spengler, and it is the time to recount here the last words in an essay by that philosopher: "We are born into this time and must bravely follow the pathway to the end. That is greatness. That is what it means to be a thoroughbred. The honourable end is the one thing that cannot be taken from a man ..."

THOUGHTS ON THE DAY OF THE EUROPEAN ELECTIONS

Thursday, 10th June, an unsullied day as the early morning sun gave atmosphere to country and city life. The day of the new European Election. A welter of candidates, confusing to the average, to be ticked for or against.

At 9.30 am. I drove to the polling station situated at the imposing Eye Town Hall astir with old memories. My car direct against the side door entry. The air reverberated a vibrant presence encompassed my being. Accompanied by Sir Oswald Mosley I had entered the same door for an historic meeting in 1938 before a packed audience. The large platform was still in place as Mosley and I climbed the steps on to the rostrum greeted by tumultuous applause.

I made a short speech to those in the Hall and again to those outside reminding them of Mosley's early Policy for a United Europe the remnants now being pursued sixty years later in a policy of compunction, by those who may hope the infrangible spirit of Mosley may come to their aid.

From the most humble to those of high attainment life is a matter of struggle and endurance in a competitive world. The wise use of privilege the mark of the few. In exemplary pattern Mosley used his privilege of lineage, his acute ableness as a orator for the good of the people, often with tremendous self sacrifice. He gave the light of truth beaming through the darkness of lies, the subterfuge of those who hold the people in bondage of debt and misery.

The inspiring words of Mosley still ring clearly across the plains of civilisation to remain dominant in the memory. 'We count it a privilege to be of an age which learns to say what can we give instead of what can we take. For thus our generation learns there are greater things than slothful ease; greater things than safety; more terrible things than death.'

The new Millennium a European within the resonance of the spirit of Mosley and his supporters, shining as the stars in the firmament over the peace of the earth within the creative, enduring will of mankind.

Ronald Creasy

GLADYS WALSH REMEMBERS —

GLADYS WALSH REMEMBERED

"When I was a young girl, I once went to a meeting of the Communist Party. I didn't like what I heard there at all. I couldn't agree with how they wanted to set one section of the British people against the other. But I never really gave much thought to politics until around 1936 when we began hearing about Mosley and the Blackshirts.

"In May of that year my mother and I went shopping in Old Road market, so we stopped and listened (to a speaker) for about half an hour. When we got home my mother said 'Glad, run back and see who they were' because she was really interested. When I returned I said 'You'll never believe this Mum. They were the Blackshirts.' She said 'I don't care what colour shirts they wear but that chap spoke sense.' Afterwards I found out the speaker was Mick Clarke of Bethnal Green.

"The following week I bought a copy of 'Action' and after that I got a copy of the British Union book '100 Questions Answered'. I studied it and eventually applied for membership. I joined as a non-active member at first. Shortly after came the memorable October 4th, the Battle of Cable Street. So we went along to Aldgate and saw for ourselves the Communists with their clenched fists rolling marbles under the police horses' hooves, and stuffing broken glass up their noses to bring the mounted police down, and we were really disgusted. I made up my mind from then on to be an active member.

"The local branch for Limestone was in Essian Street to begin with. Later we opened a bookshop in Salmons Lane and finally the womans branch moved to a hall in Condor Street. On Monday and Wednesday evenings we would go round the houses delivering literature door-to-door. Then on Fridays we would always have a big meeting in Piggot Street. We had speakers like Duke Pile, Tommy Moran and Mick Clarke.

"Going to the branch was like going to a second home, there was so much companionship. To name your paper 'Comrade' is quite right because that's exactly what we were. It was such a friendly atmosphere at the Limehouse branch, you could always walk in and someone would get you tea and biscuits because that helped to swell the funds a bit.



In 1940 Mrs. Gladys Walsh (nee Libiter) became the last Womens District Leader for Limehouse branch of British Union. This transcription comes from a recording made for FOM Sound Archive on 6 July 1988.

Everyone used to say to me 'Just wait until you hear the Old Man speak'. The first time I heard him was in Newby Place in Poplar. I went with my mother because she had also become a member. Well, we were absolutely smitten, I'd never known anybody to speak like it. He could bring you to laughter, he could bring you to tears. He had no notes to read from and the meeting must have lasted for well over an hour.

"In the Council Elections in 1937 we went around canvassing and we did very well in that Election. It really put the wind up the opposition.

"Of course, the main street was Duckett Street, practically everybody in the street was a Blackshirt, and that's the truth. We did have a really big membership. We even had our own intellectual group that included Arthur Mason, the District Leader, and Tommy Waters, a very brilliant chap who edited the 'East London Blackshirt'.

"The Earls Court Peace Rally was a marvellous occasion. There were so many people there that I really thought that it could stop War and the Leader spoke so wonderfully about it.

"I remember when war broke out and we were down at the branch, one lad with the same name I've got now called Micky Walsh said 'We'll march through Berlin by Christmas'. And I said 'No Micky. The last war was four years and this will be longer still.' He joined up direct and was killed in the middle of the war, about 1942 I think.

"When the war came we still carried on the meetings and selling papers and delivering leaflets. Then Mick Clarke asked me if I would become Womens District Leader. One thing I never did understand is that I was given the Distinction Award badge. I never knew why because I wasn't the only active one there. I lost it when our house was blasted. Although I'm glad that I never went inside there were times in the war when I wished I'd been among my own people. But I wouldn't have wanted to inflict it on my parents, even though my mother, Mrs Libiter, was a very outspoken woman. She lived to be 101 and must have been the oldest surviving Blackshirt when she died in 1973.

"After the War I went to the Second 18B Detainees Reunion in December 1945. When I arrived Duke Pile said that one of his kiddies was going to present a bouquet and he smiled and said 'Can you guess who to?'. Sure enough OM and Lady Mosley came in. It was supposed to be a dance but I can tell you there weren't many people dancing. He gave a wonderful speech.

I also went to the meeting at the Farringdon Hall in 1947 when the Leader said that from now on it's got to be a United Europe. I accepted it. He always had such insight.

What a Leader that land might have had

If the many had followed the few.

He could have had an easy life, Instead he chose to fight For the good of dear old England,

The People to unite.

So as we give a last salute and say a sad farewell

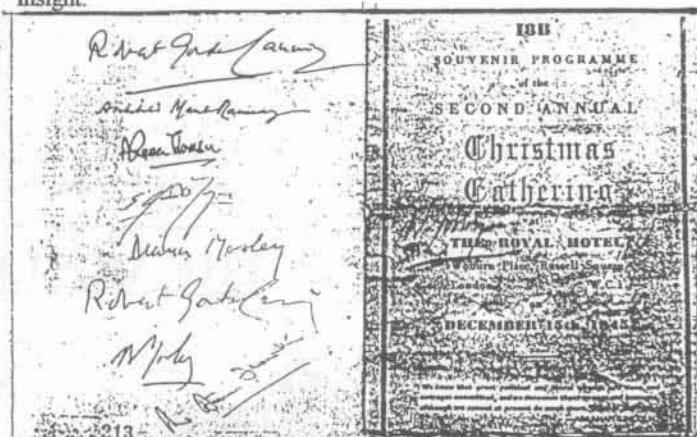
We'd like to thank you Mosley For all you did and might have done.

In the hearts of those you've left behind

Forever you will dwell.'

"He really was one of the greatest leaders of all time. Above all things he was a gentleman. He came down to everyone's level, he was never above you: when he spoke to you he was always on the level with you. The rough and ready people of the East End of London absolutely held him in the highest esteem. I always did feel that belonging to British Union made me want to be a bit better than I had been before. He gave me an understanding of a purpose in life.

"I would do every bit of it all over again, I don't regret it one bit. I'm just proud I was allowed to be one of them. My own end's not far off now and I shall die a Blackshirt"



Mrs Walsh's autographed programme from the December 1945 Second 18B Reunion Dinner signed by Robert Gordon Canning, Archibald Maule Ramsay, Raven Thompson, Quentin Joyce, Diana Mosley, Sir Oswald Mosley and Neil Francis Hawkins.

"My days in the Mosley Movement I really do count as the happiest days of my life. After he died I wrote a poem about him:

'When we heard that the leader had died

Part of us died too

Mrs Walsh died on December 31st 1990: She was one of the finest types of women in East London who gave themselves completely to British Union's struggle for Peace and People. Her example will never be forgotten by her surviving comrades.

TV REVIEW:

GULAG

In the rush to industrialise under a succession of state sponsored 'Five Year Plans' millions of innocent Russians were transported as slave labour to work on extracting the country's vast mineral wealth and build grandiose and often worthless engineering schemes. With a total lack of machinery these near impossible feats were achieved with bare hands in appalling conditions. Sub-zero temperatures, bad food and inhuman hours meant a death sentence for the majority.

In his book 'The Alternative' (1947) Mosley wrote then when news of the atrocities that occurred in German-occupied territory became known at the end of the Second World War, his first reaction was that it was victor's propaganda. But when the evidence became clear, he immediately condemned it without equivocation. He later added that if British Union had come to power, there would have been no atrocities because there would have been no war, and such things only happen in the heat of blood and war.

But Mosley had reckoned without the murderous mind of Stalin and the Soviet system that murdered between 20 and 50 million people, many in the slave labour colonies known as the Gulags. If the last figure is correct it means that the Soviets murdered, mainly in peacetime, more people than died in the Second World War.

The story was recently told on BBC 2 in 'Gulag': a three-hour epic documentary. It told how Stalin worked millions of his own people to death in order to complete massive construction projects for which he knew no Russian worker would 'freely' volunteer. In appalling conditions of sub-zero temperatures, poor

pouring cement in the foundations of a new dam that was behind schedule were thrown with their barrows into the liquid foundations to speed completion. For Stalin, a bag of cement was worth more than a Russian worker. When major projects were completed, the 'bosses' or overseers were then themselves liquidated to keep the enormous death toll a secret.



PLENTY OF HAMMERS BUT NO SICKLES.
SLAVE LABOUR UNDER THE RUSSIAN YOKE. FEW COMPLETED THEIR SENTENCES, FALLING PREY TO ILL TREATMENT AND DISEASE.

food, inadequate clothing and non-existent medical care, those declared 'enemies of the people' worked and died in numbers too great to comprehend. A whole nation, the Tartars, were deported to the Gulags in one day.

Some idea of the brutal regime that prevailed was explained by one of the few survivors. He told how workers with wheelbarrows

The supply of labour was maintained by a 'quota system' implemented by the NKVD secret police and a network of informers. If more slaves were needed, more people were falsely accused of crimes against the state or subversion. Any unsubstantiated allegation from anyone would do so long as the quotas were met.

One 93-year old Camp Commander admitted that most were probably innocent but asked 'How else could we possibly have industrialised?'. His excuse was that they believed in communism. Another camp guard was asked if he felt guilty? 'No, I don't. Ask anyone who lived then. We were brought up to believe in it. We knew nothing else', was his indignant reply.

'The evil hypocrisy of Workers of the World Unite'

What came across from the programme greatest of all was the evil hypocrisy of the Soviets who professed to be freeing the workers of the world - whilst in fact they were murdering them in tens of millions for their advantage. And it was from this Russian Soviet system that Communist Parties throughout the world slavishly took their orders - even though the terror of the Gulags was well known.

Today, the camp guards and NKVD commanders interviewed say they enjoy large state pensions. No question of them being brought to justice for murdering millions of their innocent fellow-citizens.

As we know from events in Europe only this year, the brutality of men and women is not confined to history. So long as ideology, money or personal aggrandisement are considered more important than human suffering, there will always be a place for Gulag camp guards and NKVD commanders, whatever they may call themselves.

Gordon Beckwell

Were you a happy snapper during the days of the B.U.F. or U.M.

During those times most families owned at least a Box Brownie camera for recording family holidays, weddings christenings etc. Because of the general interest in photography the use of the camera was often extended by members to taking a few shots of meetings and marches. The F.O.M. archives have over the years been the grateful recipient of many photographs taken this way. These pictures have filled gaps in the collection and we are still looking for more. Anything from a street corner meeting to giant rallies, or just a snap of members are being

THE MOSLEY HERITAGE



AN EAGER YOUNG MEMBER ENSURES A MOVIE FILM RECORD IS MADE OF A TRAFALGAR SQUARE DEMONSTRATION

sought. We would only wish to borrow your pictures for a few days in order to make a copy. All originals will be safely returned.

POSTERITY

Please help if you can in order to safeguard for posterity the story of Mosley's fight for justice and freedom for the land he loved. This appeal also extends to the owners of amateur cine cameras who almost by chance may have taken just a few movie pictures of political activity.

Please write in the first instance to: F.O.M., 101 Orwell Court, Pownell Road, London, E8 4PP.

Donald Newby 1917-1999

Born in his beloved county of Suffolk, Donald Newby while never being a member of the B.U.F. or even claiming to be a Mosleyite was a man with a great sense of fair play. This was shown in the late 1930s when as editor of a regional newspaper he allowed B.U.F. Councillor, Ronald Creasy to write a weekly column headed **British Union Topics**. Full use was made of this generosity to put over the B.U.'s attitudes to the impending brothers war. Despite the continued vilification of Mosley's policy by his enemies Newby's friendship remained unconditional.

NEW LABOUR CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Today, of course, Home Secretary Straw and other Ministers are purring with satisfaction, since Pinochet made a serious mistake in thinking that Blair led a traditional British Government, coming to this country for medical treatment and expecting hospitality extended in the past to some of the greatest villains of today.

As for the charges against Pinochet, for instance the use of torture, most of the member countries of the United Nations and a large number in Blair's Commonwealth use torture. So did the late Allende for that matter during the short time he was running Chile.

True there are a large number of friends and comrades of Allende who 'disappeared' after he was overthrown. An atrocity? How can it possibly compare with the fact that **one third**, no less, of the people of Tibet have disappeared since the Chinese Communists marched in and took over their country in 1949? In the scales of sheer wickedness how can Pinochet possibly be weighed against the Chinese.

So India and Pakistan have been fighting again. They have been at war three times in the past 50 years already, and now they are at it again. Yet these two are supposed to be brother-nations in Blair's precious Commonwealth, showing everyone how 'mankind can live and work together in peace,' blah, blah, and all the rest of that nauseating humbug.

But who set up India and Pakistan as independent states, to show us all how things should be done, and then constructed the

NORTH SUFFOLK MESSENGER 22nd April, 1939. Page 7

BRITISH UNION

Edited by TOPICS RONALD N. CREASY.

The Mad Cry for War.

We in the British Union stand firm

In the post-war years this fair and even handed journalist became a County Councillor, edited The Daily Telegraph Bowls Year book and for many years organised quality antique fairs in the Eastern Counties.

first proposal was the demanding of equality with other nations while renouncing all further armaments if other nations would do the same. In other

If only some of the national papers had been so generous with space the Mosley message might have had a different outcome.

F.S

Commonwealth wherein they could dazzle us with their brilliant ways? Labour again, more accurately Prime Minister Attlee and Mountbatten the left leaning Viceroy.

No wonder things are in a state and getting worse.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Sir,

May I add a few words to James Bryce's article on Herbert Morrison published in the last edition of 'Comrade'. For sheer hypocrisy I draw your attention to what this turncoat politician said on 31st October 1939 some months prior to becoming Home Secretary. When speaking about Regulation 18B the catch all legislation introduced to gag Mosley's continued plea for peace he said

"... these regulations give really extraordinarily sweeping powers under which, it seems to me, anybody whom the Home Secretary did not like could be hanged, drawn and quartered almost without any proper or reasonable means of defending himself ..." "I think that any Minister is capable of being wicked when he has a body of regulations like this to administer."

These quotes expose the double standard of a failed politician prepared to swallow his own words in order to gain office in a Churchill led government.

Yours sincerely,
George Pullen

MOSLEY NOT MAU MAU CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

mutilation and cruelty highlighted in numerous 1935 issues of the British Union's weekly newspaper **Blackshirt**. In later years with his country sinking even deeper into chaos and famine 'The Lion of Judah' made a state visit to Great Britain. To its honour and credit, Mosley's Union Movement yet again drew attention to the continuing excesses of this African tyrant. Jomo Kenyatta's hands are equally soaked in blood with over 12000 deaths attributed to the Kenya emergency. At the very least these proposed blue plaques should have red lettering to symbolise the blood of countless victims.

Now more African freedom fighters, who enjoyed the liberal attitude of this country during their requisite exile years of plotting are due to be considered for 'bluing'. It seems strange that the greatest Englishmen of this Century, Sir Oswald Mosley, the Father of European unity and thought, has yet to be considered for a plaque. It does show how far this country has gone down the road of political correctness, recognising every amoeba like grouping who treat these monsters with respect, unable to realise Africa was lost, thrown away by the very politicians who blatantly abused their power once in office and suppressed the very people they had set out to release from so called oppression.

COMRADE

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British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

July/August

AITKEN, Sqd/Ldr Lionel:

59 Sqn RAF: BUF "1" Squad: 1/c Black House HQ: killed in action bombing German convoy off Dunkirk: brother Andrew, BUF, RAF killed flying accident 1937: sister Marjorie BUF Womens D/O: son of Cmdr R.H. Aitken RN Rtd: BUF. Lies in Dunkirk Town Cemetery. 7 July 1941

BRUNING, Clement: BUF Admin Officer: Parl. Cand. Wood Green: 1 of 5 Ealing Blackshirt brothers: died in German Concentration Camp at time brother GUY in British Concentration Camp: 31: Lies in Cracow Military Cemetery, Poland. 17 August 1942

HAYES, Spr. John Basil RE: 25: West Leeds BUF Cand. local elections: despatcher killed Hemswell RAF Station after Dunkirk evacuation: Lies in St Chad Churchyard, Harpswell, Lincs. 26 July 1940

THOMSON, William Newby: RAMC: 27: Liverpool BUF killed in action No. 7 Field Dressing Station, Normandy: Lies in Ranville War Cemetery. 17 July 1944

WALSH, Sgt. Michael 'Micky': RAF VR: 156 Sqdn: Limehouse BUF: 23: killed in action Bremen Op. Remembered Air Force Memorial, Runnymede. 27 July 1942

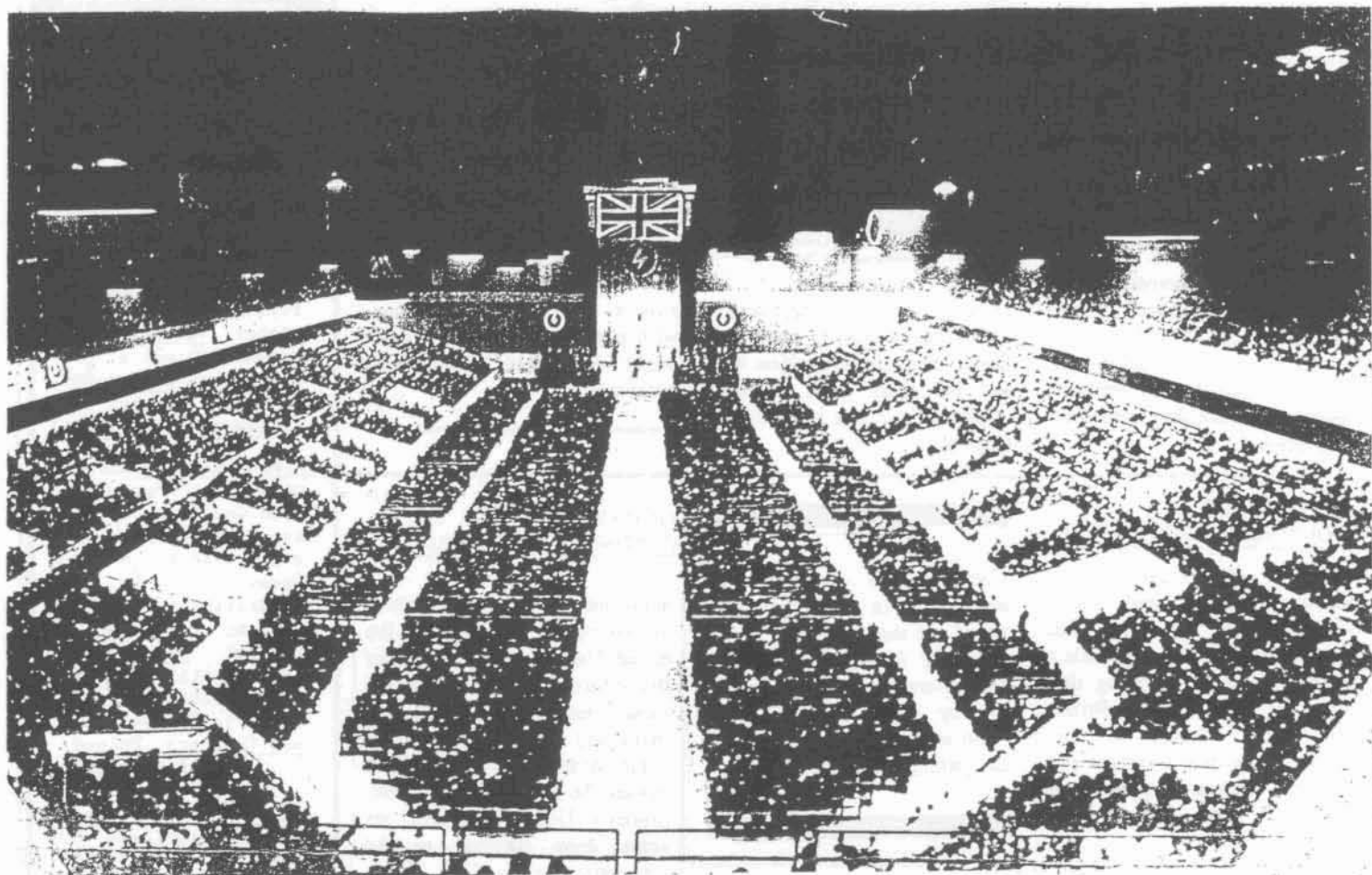
Sally Chamberlain

Unknown to most old comrades but a familiar face in recent years at FOM functions, Sally Chamberlain of Bow, East London has died.

Sally was of a Blackshirt family of Limehouse Branch, as was the man she married, John who came the war was a gunner serving in Egypt, Italy and Palestine. He died in 1981.

On hearing of FOM Sally immediately associated. As it has been often said: "Once a Blackshirt always a Blackshirt"

A LAST CALL FOR PEACE



On July 16th 1939 British Union held the largest indoor political meeting in the world. 30,000 people backed Mosley in his call to Government ...

"...We have had enough. Enough we have had of alien quarrels, enough threats of foreign war... enough diversion from what matters to the British people... We tell you this, if any country in the world attacks Britain or threatens to attack Britain, then every single member of this great audience and of British Union would fight for Britain."

Despite this unique meeting very little was reported in the papers. The public were deliberately kept in ignorance. Six weeks later this country went to war to honour an impossible treaty callously negotiated to drag us into a brothers war. Despite the catch all 18B legislation imprisoning over 800 British Union members thousands more joined the services and fought and died with honour in defence of Britain.

We recall with pride the final sentences of Mosley's speech on this momentous occasion 60 years ago

"So we take by the hand these our children, to whom our struggle shall give back our England; with them we dedicate ourselves again to the memory of those who have gone before, and to that radiant wonder of finer and nobler life that our victory shall bring to our country. To the dead heroes of Britain, in sacred union, we say: 'Like you we give ourselves to England - across the ages that divide us - across the glories of Britain that unite us - we gaze into your eyes and we give to you this holy vow - we will be true - To-day - to-morrow - and for ever - ENGLAND LIVES.'"

COMRADE

Incorporating ACTION and UNION

Newsletter of Friends of QM



No. 52

'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'

November/December 1999

'Of the 100 photographs chosen by the celebrities, only five appear twice' writes the Daily Telegraph on the National Portrait Gallery's FACES OF THE CENTURY exhibition. The first of the five is named as OSWALD MOSLEY. 'Winston Churchill' it adds, 'the Queen, the Queen Mother and the Princess of Wales appear only once while Lloyd George, Attlee and Macmillan do not feature at all.'

For half-a-century the media and political Establishment have tried to write him out of history. In recent years his name, his past and his vision have increasingly entered historical and political debate as we near the close of the 20th century, their attempts are seen to have failed, his presence established. OSWALD MOSLEY will live forever as the greatest British and European patriot of his time.

A VOICE ACROSS THE CENTURY

BY DESMOND IRVINE

THE LONG SHADOW of the Second World War has resulted in numerous programmes and articles in television and the Press. The general picture is of politicians and other vested interests trying to shore-up the remnants of the Versailles Treaty which followed World War 1, and the problems it created to justify Britain's fateful blunder into the 1939 war.

In his post-war book *The Alternative*, Oswald Mosley showed clearly the reasons for the disaster of Britain's Declaration of War in 1939 which clearly stated that Great Britain, the Dominions and Empire were at war with Germany to ensure that the British heritage would prevail, all to be achieved by guaranteeing the Eastern Marches of Europe.

On the 60th annivers-

ary the media attempted to catch the mood of 1939 and show, rightly, that all those who lived through those times as days of courage and endurance.

But at the end of that war the cost of those years of strife and suffering came home to roost.

Bankruptcy of the island Kingdom, the loss of Empire and shattering of the real ties with the Dominions. The Left at that time of course constantly urged that, blessed by providence, the results were good.

The Millennium and the Memoriam

CLEARLY the Millennium is big business. As we approach the Big Event the Commercial and media hype seems never ending.

So as the last few moments of the Old Millennium tick away I would ask, 'What are we actually celebrating?'



'We shall be true'

Which were that Britain became America's 'Aircraft carrier' to maintain their and the West's essential protection against our wartime 'ally', Soviet Russia. The real aim of Labour Left and the Communist Party had been realised. Soviet power now dominated and threatened a weakened Europe.

The strangest aspect of the war years is the sight of the formerly pacifist Labour Party suddenly becoming partners in a war govern-

Turn to page 2

Legion d'Honneur

PUPILS in the village of Annoeullin near Lisle have resisted pressure to name their school after a French or local dignitary and instead voted to name it the ECOLE de CAPTAIN ALBERT BALL.

A British hero of the First War and one of the bravest airmen of his time who daily dived with death in the primitive Royal Flying Corps machines, ALBERT BALL had over 40 kills over the Western Front. In May 1917, age 20, he met Baron von Richthofen's 'Flying Circus' and though not hit by gunfire crashed into a field near the French village. Wing icing established as the probable cause.



Not forgotten

At a time when chivalry was still alive, the Germans buried him with full military honours. He was posthumously awarded the VICTORIA CROSS and the LEGION D'HONNEUR having already received the M.C. and D.S.O. and made a Freeman of his native Nottingham where later his statue was erected in the castle grounds.

The Deputy Mayor of Annoeullin, Philippe Vandenberghe said that Capt Ball embodied everything the children admired. 'He was a young man who didn't hesitate to lay

Turn to page 2

Turn to page 10

1 VOICE ACROSS THE CENTURY

ment. Perhaps, in the strangeness of things, it was the 'new beginning of future 'New Labour'!

The explanations of the war can only be found in the events before 1939. The withholding from the people of the United Kingdom of the policies of Mosley and British Union by deliberate Press and radio blanket boycott being just one example.

For the present generation an examination has to be made to ascertain exactly the reality of life in Britain at that time. The unemployed figures in 1939 stood officially at 1½ million but is believed to have been at least 2 million. The legacy of McDonald, Snowden and Baldwin was well to the fore. This was deflation; the lack of real investment and the collapse of farming.

And throughout the country thousands suffered malnutrition and want.

There was a small upturn in the economy, part due to what the Government of the day called rearmament. Mosley ever pointed out that old methods and ideas were dead, and could not resolve the economic problems of the time.

The dead hand of Finance held back recovery and as Mosley pointed out: 'If such an attempt to win Peace had succeeded the 'democracies' would have returned to their ardently desired mercantilism, under the presiding deity of High Finance'.

In other words, the old parties had no solution to the problems caused by their own embedded ways.

The new movements across the heartland of Europe were in their audacious and brave policies, highly dangerous to the archaic trading systems of the old gang politicians.

The policies of Mosley

and British Union were the only real attempt to change the economic and political policies which had brought our country to the crisis of 1914 and the following collapse by Slump and mass unemployment.

With the exception of Joseph Chamberlain's Imperial Tariff preference, there had not been a means of breaking the noose of laissez-faire finance, the Imperial Dominions neglected in the miscellaneous interests of speculation.

In historical perspective, Oswald Mosley's movement was grounded deep in the earth of the Shires and in the severe upheavals resulting from the repeal of the Corn Laws. In the past two centuries, British Union was the only Movement to bring the chance of new birth to agriculture and industry in the United Kingdom. These parts of Britain were being destroyed by policies which meant periodical wars for markets and banking bases.

Mosley was right

Again we turn to Mosley's *The Alternative*. 'Finance simply could not afford the success of the German experiment because the eyes of its subject peoples in the 'Democracies' would have been opened'.

In these days of fresh crisis there is every reason to show the exact premise that Oswald Mosley proclaimed.

The blether of lies in the media about Mosley, his ideas and times must be shown for what it is, the scripts of traitorous and cunning third-raters who have achieved seats of power and who are determined to extinguish our traditions and history and to belie historical fact.

Let us again turn to *The Alternative*.

'For the moment, let us observe merely Money could not have mobilised the Mob for world disaster, if deep subcon-

'from the cockpit of Flanders and Picardy, the Idea was born'



scious instincts had not been available in many quarters to produce a catastrophe which was entirely irrational. Britain and Germany were complimentary - they had nothing in the world to fight about'.

As this violent 20th century draws to its close with Britain just a shadow of its once proud self, despite the false image created by the 'spin-doctoring' of those at the seats of power, it is becoming increasingly obvious to the new generations of thinkers that Mosley was right.

The second conflict with Germany was in fact a second Punic war, a civil war between the states of Europa. This inevitably resulted in a general world war.

As early as the 1930s Mosley had grasped that drift to war was inexorable and very difficult

to stop. He put forward a concept of the separate states of Europe.

His remarkable book, written after years of imprisonment without charge or trial begins with the words:

'We were divided and we were conquered', closing with 'If the Fatherland of Europe is lost, all is lost....All things are possible and all will be achieved by the final order of the European'.

His ideas, his Movement and those who struck to his banner arose from the cockpit of Flanders and Picardy and that holocaust which survivors had believed that their sacrifice was to 'end all wars'.

In Oswald Mosley's 'Alternative' we hear the voices of those dead battalions to the sons they begat who they never knew and from the agony of their death throes their heart rendering 'WHY', their soaring spirits proclaiming the birth of The Idea.

**BRITAIN AWAKE!
EUROPE AWAKE!
EUROPE A NATION!**

1 Legion d'honneur

down his life at the call of duty. That is a message we hope the school will send to the youth of Europe'.

This gesture by tomorrow's generation breaking out of that narrow nationalism which twice within our generation almost brought European civilisation to dusts is to be applauded.

The future lies with casting aside the vindictive political and vested interests rooted in past events and personalities that continue to ferment trouble between the European peoples.

COMRADE EXTRA

This second edition of Comrade No.52 is issued for reason of exceptional production problems with the first edition leading to a number of typographical errors and because of national and international requests for copies beyond our normal print run. This edition includes minor alterations and additions.

WINDRUSH: HISTORY TV STYLE

"When we come over here we brought music, we brought colour, we brought dope and we brought life to this god damned country" the message freely expressed by Johnny Edgecombe, one time street hustler, lover of Christine Keeler and convicted gunman was just one of the remarkable statements broadcast in the television series *Windrush*.

These documentaries given a high profile and major funding by the B.B.C gave massive publicity to every aspect of West Indian life in this country. The series, named after the ex-troopship *Empire Windrush*, brought in 1948, an initial 500 West Indian immigrants to this country. It is generally acknowledged that this was the start of the mass influx of Afro Caribbeans to our shores.

In episode two of the four part series titled 'Intolerance' the commentator states "Discredited during the war for his (Mosley's) support of Hitler he saw Notting Hill as the chance to relaunch his political career".

FACT: In the lead up to and during the first eight months of war Mosley advocated peace with Germany but at no time supported Hitler against the interests of this country. Because of the British Unions success in putting an alternative case to the inevitable slaughter of millions, the war-monger Churchill had Mosley, together with over 800 followers imprisoned without charge or trial. As for "relaunching his political career" this had been done with great success in 1948 with the founding of **Union Movement** ten years before Notting Hill came to prominence. In featuring the 1958 Notting Hill riots, the commentary continued "but an even more sinister force was at work. Sir Oswald Mosley's anti-immigrant Union Movement had been campaigning in Notting Hill since 1956".

FACT: Mosley had always had a strong presence in the area going back to British Union days with a Blackshirt branch well established in North Kensington. In Union Movements formative years Mosley held regular and orderly meetings in Kensington Town Hall. His anti-immigrant policy was always one of fair repatriation to good jobs and conditions created by buying sugar and bananas from the West Indies. At home he saw exploitation of immigrants in housing by racketeers such as Peter Rackman and an over extension of services that just could not cope with an influx of foreigners, whatever their colour.

In featuring on the Notting Hill race riots the commentary continued "By July of 1958 the resentment exploited by Mosley had turned the streets of Notting Hill into a dangerous place for West Indians".

FACT: At the time the news media attempted to link Mosley and Union Movement to these riots. Absolutely no connection was ever found.

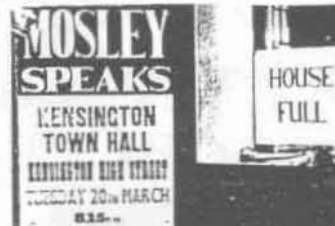


MURDER

Every cause needs a martyr to exploit and in the murder of the West Indian Kelso Cochrane, in May 1959 an icon was manufactured. The commentary continued "But racial crime was to remain a threatening feature of life in Britain" ... Cochrane was stabbed to death by three Teddy boys ... It was Britain's first acknowledged race killing" Rudy Braithwaite who attended Kelso's funeral stated "They (the crowd) were accusing Mosley for it. They were openly shouting that this was a Mosley thing."

At this point it is possible to address hard facts.

In attempting to smear Mosley who had announced his standing for Parliament in the Argyll Hall on the 6th April 1959 the press and political parties were desperate to discredit him, they had no answer to his case but intended going to any length to achieve their objective. Kelso Cochrane had been rapidly built up into a universal symbol of the innocent and peaceful West Indian



'House Full' in 1956 nails the lie that Mosley only intervened after the North Kensington race riots in 1958.

carpenter who kept out of trouble and whose only wish was to marry and settle down. Here was the perfect vehicle to smear Mosley. In reality Cochrane had a conviction for causing grievous bodily harm for attacking a workmate with a spanner. The knife that killed him was probably his own, he liked to carry one. He lied to his fiancée, a coloured nurse when he said he was a bachelor. In fact he had a wife, Mrs Kansas Cochrane and family in Harlem and was only in this country having been deported from the United States, five years earlier. Scotland Yard promptly issued a statement (May 18th) that it was satisfied "the stabbing has absolutely nothing to do with racial conflict". This was endorsed three months later by the coroner, who in addressing the jury said "There does not appear from the evidence you have heard to be anything to suggest that it necessarily had any racial connotation at all".



Dozens of orderly street meetings were held Mosley's Election campaign

AFTERMATH

In referring to Mosley's 1959 General Election candidature in North Kensington, the *Windrush* commentary continued 'humiliated, he retired from politics' This beggars belief. In the following two years, Mosley spoke no less

Reviewing television programmes is not the usual remit of *Comrade*, but when highly contentious statements and outright lies are broadcast about Sir Oswald Mosley, it is necessary in the absence of the right to reply on television to respond in print.



A packed Argyll Hall endorses Mosley's nomination as Union Movement Candidate for North Kensington in the 1959 General Election.

than six times to crowds numbering thousands in Trafalgar Square together with meetings all over the country, including two in Kensington Town Hall. Later he led the founding of The National Party of Europe whose ideas on European Union are today's hottest topic on the political agenda. The series producer of *Windrush* was Trevor Phillips, friend of Blair and Mandelson, and waiting in the wings as a candidate for the Mayoralty of London. It is indicative of this documentary that no film of Mosley, during the 1959 election was used showing the dozens of large and orderly meetings. However graphic film of Mosley in July 1962 being kicked to the ground in Ridley Road was more acceptable to the agenda, together with film shot as late as

1968! Such manipulation of pictorial content which we can prove, does at the very least question the veracity of the sequences featuring Mosley, if not the whole *Windrush* series, of which we make no comment.

COME IN AXL 591 YOUR TIME IS UP

One of the early administrative problems of the B.U.F. was transportation together with the physical elevation of speakers to ensure everyone got a good view and could clearly hear the message. The traditional soap box soon gave way to customised platforms suitable for street corners, but Mosley was attracting thousands to his meetings. Something much bigger was required. The answer was the purchase of five speaker vans

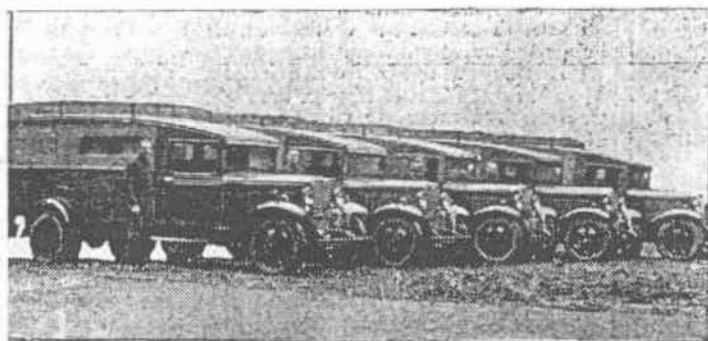


AXL 591 at 'Black House' NHQ, Chelsea

We know from 1950 it was parked in the slip road at the back of National Head Quarters at 302 Vauxhall Bridge Road. Now beginning to show its age it was occasionally road taxed and used for major outdoor events.



Raven Thomson speaks for Union Movement at British Union's historic meeting place at Victoria Park Square, Bethnal Green on October 4 1949



The fleet of propaganda vans awaiting delivery to British Union

reputably a frustrated export order for Russia. These vans were an excellent investment with at least one being permanently stationed up North. The remaining four served the larger outdoor London meetings and toured from Cornwall to East Anglia, Scotland to the South Coast often making planned stops for meetings in rural towns and villages not used to recruiting in this revolutionary way. Covering thousands of miles their use was intensified in Mosley's British Peace Campaign leading up to Mayday in 1940, when the government banned street marches. Stationary vans covered with slogans were strategically placed all over



AXL 591 continues to show its worth at a bomb site Union Movement meeting in Lewisham

London used to draw attention to Mosley's giant outdoor rally on the evening of the 5th May in Victoria Park Square, just three weeks prior to his arrest and imprisonment. Amazingly at least one of these by now veteran vans parked in a West End mews garage survived the London blitz, and relivered was pressed back into service when Union Movement was formed in 1948.

Because of its old fashion image it seems not to have been used during the 1959 election or indeed ever again. So what happened to it? F.O.M. research unit would dearly like to know. If by any remote chance it survived, a part of living history could be saved for posterity. So where is Axl 591. Please, if anyone knows its fate let us know it must have been driven or towed off somewhere.



The 'Daily Worker' burns on top of AXL 591 at a Union Movement meeting in East London.

UNCLE MAX REVISITED

Dear Sir,

I was particularly interested to read the brief article *Uncle Max* by Martin Moloney, but I violently disagree with Martin's comments.

Anthony Master's book *The Man Who Was 'M'* was poorly researched and it failed to uncover the facts that - from 1923-1927 - Maxwell Knight was a senior officer in the British Fascists and his first wife Gwladys was also a prominent member.

The mission of the British Fascists was to counter the Communist menace and it took its cue from Mussolini who had apparently resolved the threat to Italy.

Knight was the movement's intelligence Officer and a friend of William Joyce. It seems likely that Knight tipped off Joyce about his imminent arrest. This caused Joyce's exit to Germany and led to his subsequent notoriety as 'Lord Haw Haw' - although Joyce was not the original Lord Haw Haw as was popularly supposed.

There is no doubt, in my mind, that Joyce should not have been found guilty of treason - for a whole variety of reasons. Nevertheless, he finished up on the scaffold.

I doubt if Sir Oswald Mosley would have shared Martin's view of Knight because they had so much in common and I have reason to believe that they were friendly.

Moreover, as you know, the incarceration of the British Fascists following Churchill's elevation to Prime Minister was a purely political act as reward for Labour support. It was done against M15's advice.

These points are brought out dramatically in my play 'Moneypenny' which won second prize in a play writing competition last year. The play's principal character is Joan Miller (who worked for Knight in M15 from 1940 onwards) and it challenges her version of events - which formed to core of Master's book, even though Masters had been warned that her material was unreliable.

After reading Martin's article I believe it time to set the record straight using my play to promote further thoughts and investigations.

BRYAN CLOUGH

* Bryan Clough is co-author of *Approaching Zero: Data Crime and the Computer Underworld*. He is a respected authority on computer security and a member of the National Computer Virus Strategy Group.

HE MARCHED FOR MOSLEY

The official history of British Union has yet to be published. It was commissioned by Sir Oswald Mosley in the 1950s. Written by Richard Reynell Bellamy. The manuscript runs to three volumes totaling 300,000 words plus an appendices of 20,000 words. Mosley had made an excellent choice in appointing Bellamy as official historian. He was already an established author having had two books published about his youthful exploits in New Caledonia prior to joining B.U. During those momentous years he was promoted to senior staff officer in charge of Northern H.Q. became a National Inspector responsible for a large part of the Midlands and Northern England as well as being selected as B.U.F. parliamentary candidate for Blackley, Manchester. In the files of Sanctuary Press, the B.U. publishing arm, an aide-memoire has been discovered giving a first hand account of Bellamy's introduction and years in the movement.

In the spring of 1933 I received a visit in my Norfolk home from a member of the BUF, a tall well built, good looking fellow in a tight fitting black fencing-jacket. Guetoult was the first blackshirt I had actually seen, and I became very impressed by him.

He explained his French name. Apparently his great grandfather had fled to this country from the French Revolution. He was himself a schoolmaster, after serving as a British officer in the 1914-18 war. He had charm, eloquence and wit: for an entire evening he captivated the family, and kept us from our beds until the early hours of the next day. Whereas the tonic of his words soon wore off as far as my parents and brothers were concerned, in my case I thought on what he had said, the greater became my conviction that Mosley had the answers to the questions of the day.

I was converted by the plain sense of Guetoult's statement that the new movement's policy combined the patriotism of the Right with the progress and reforms of the Left.

He quoted Mosley himself: "It has become axiomatic that if an Englishman wishes to see his country great and strong, armed to defend, and the imperial possessions firmly held, he aligns himself with those selfish interests which are opposed to the long overdue reforms. If on the other hand he is a social reformer, it is inevitable that he should also be a pacifist, would be prepared to see Britain defenceless in an armed world, he would let the Empire fall apart, and be ever ready to listen to the subversive voice of Moscow."

Here at last was news of a movement ready to put the Great back into Britain and the selfish financial interests into their proper place, but which at the same time could defeat the soulless materialism of the Left. It was the message I had been waiting for. I could hesitate no longer, I joined.

I had been an active member of the British Union of Fascists for several months before I set eyes upon its leader, or heard him speak. The occasion was a meeting in an East Anglian market town, where I had cycled in company of other blackshirt stewards from outlying villages.

I saw a tall man, tall and commanding, deep chested, brawny and athletic despite a slight limp. Dark-haired and handsome, he was stern at times charming and disarming when he smiled. Occasionally, very rarely, a light would flash in his eyes. It was a phenomenon I have known in no other man; it seemed to indicate some inner force or fire.



Dick Bellamy in 1937

Although converted to his creed, still had in my callowness imbibed from right-wing newspapers, which had denigrated him in every way since he left the Conservative party. When I signed my enrolment form I said to the BUF officer "I'm joining your party because plain sense tells me that its policy is the right one, but I've yet to be convinced that Mosley is the right man to lead it."

The overriding impression that I carried away from that meeting, however, was of an array of talents seldom to be found in any one man. He showed extensive

knowledge and deep understanding of the many aspects of his subject, memory for facts and figures (for he spoke without notes), the ability to simplify any abstruse matters so that slow and bucolic minds could understand, and above all there remained with me the recollection of his stirring magnetism in that strong voice as he spoke on and on, without strain or affection in polished but unaffected prose.

It has been said of him that he was the only member of the House of Commons, excepting Winston Churchill, whose speeches were reported verbatim and without alteration in *Hansard*. The utterance of other members of Parliament had to be edited, sometimes dramatically, otherwise the speakers would have appeared in print as semi-literate.

Listening carefully to Mosley that day, and watching him closely, convinced me that in joining his movement I had accepted the leadership of one of the most talented and portentous figures in Britain.

That was in the late autumn of 1933. Since then, the world has undergone some of the greatest upheavals in all history. Among the major catastrophes attending the Second World War, the British Empire - which we had pledged ourselves to serve - has been swept away, or thrown away, to join the empires of Spain, of Rome and of Alexander the Great. The fruits of three and a half centuries of heroic endeavour and of glorious achievement, our priceless heritage, also our awesome responsibilities, have been cast away by politicians too weary, weak or subverted to carry on the great traditions of the Pax Britannica.

Long ago Mosley foretold: "WITHOUT SOME GREAT SPIRITUAL REVIVAL, BRITAIN IS DOOMED" for more than four decades he has striven unceasingly to implant the seed of spiritual and national regeneration. Meanwhile, our



Another packed British Union meeting at Manchester's Free Trade Hall

country slowly sinks, its power ebbs, its honour whilst its glory fades. All that remains is an ignoble obsession with material gain, once so immortalised by Harold Macmillan as "never had it so good"

For more than four decades, too, he has predicted with certainty the inevitable and approaching collapse of the existing financial capitalist system. The day of economic reckoning and widespread ruin, also prophesied long ago by Karl Marx, may be postponed for an interval by improvisations hurriedly concocted by frightened governments and their financial pundits, but their supposed panaceas can be no more than stop-gaps and palliatives. Nothing, Mosley says, can put off forever the end of the present day capitalism, doomed to destruction by its own inherent faults.

Whereas Marx offered his generation salvation through communism, Mosley invites his fellow country men, and his fellow Europeans, to study and accept a fresh approach to both spiritual and material life, which he calls "The New Idea"

I have followed Mosley for forty years; nor can I complain if the road he took has proved rough and difficult and long. Yet if most of us had to live our lives again, even with the fore knowledge of what was to come, almost all of us would align ourselves once more with Mosley.

Dick Bellamy died in 1988. His manuscript, completed in 1966 remains a testament to why so many risked all to follow a man and his ideas.

BOOK REVIEW



By Peter Kennedy

"Alarmingly mild coverage, sniffed Philip Hensher in a recent Spectator review of a new study of Richmal Crompton and the immemorial 'William' books.

What excited Hensher's disapproval was a passage in one in which William and the Outlaws chanced upon a local Blackshirt meeting near the village pub.

The Outlaws "couldn't make out much of what the speaker was saying, but he looked very noble and magnificent, perched up aloft on his wooden box, in his black shirt, shouting and throwing his arms about. It made William and the Outlaws long to be up there too, shouting and throwing their arms about." As the Blackshirts drove off at a dizzy speed, "William and the Outlaws watched wistfully."

Hensher clearly finds these sentiments, indeed the Englishness of the little scene disturbing. Yet while British Union attracted violent opposition as well as much enthusiastic support, one is struck, talking to old Blackshirts, by how conventional was their usual reception. The normality was, well, normal, the presence of the Movement being for the majority, part of everyday life.

This normality is re-enforced in a fascinating new book - a gem of a discovery - "Blackshirts-on-Sea" by J. A. Booker, a profusely illustrated history of the British Union summer camps in Sussex from 1933 to 1938. As Mr Booker remarks in his introduction, there is (for the prejudiced or mis-informed) something disconcerting about the photographs. "How normal most of the participants look. No horns or cloven hooves are visible. There are no mad staring eyes. Pleasant smiles were the order of the day."

BLACKSHIRTS-ON

The chance discovery of a sixty year old photograph album was the inspiration behind Blackshirts-on-Sea, a pictorial and textual record of Mosley's Summer camps held in West Sussex throughout the 1930s. Author Jeremy Booker makes the poignant observation that the people depicted in these photographs look no different from anyone else, yet many of those pictured were vilified a few years later at the out break of World War Two, when almost one thousand were imprisoned for believing in Mosley.

"I think we made a good impression on local people," recalls one former Blackshirt. "We mixed with them as much as possible at local village fetes, church services etc." At day's end it was often a village pub that summoned the campers, Blackshirts strolling back through leafy lanes to their bell tents. No local hostility, no counter-demonstration, and just two village bobbies denied even the compensation of overtime. How alarmingly mild Mr Hensher!

While sharing to the full the fundamentals of the conventional models, needless to say the philosophy of the camps (Pagham 1933, West Wittering, 1934, Pagham again the following summer and again in 1936, and Selsey 1937) went far beyond sun, sea and sand. To fun, games and relaxation, were added the strengthening of the Blackshirt cause and ethos, and an already powerful camaraderie, all committed to the daily, year-round political struggle.



Mosley greeted at the 1936 Pagham camp

Lasting for up to two months and drawing thousands of Blackshirts, Greyshirts and cadets (Mr Hensher will find several happy Williams' among the Brownie-snapped pictures), the camps provided what seems to have been a many-starred service for a very low tariff. The camp fund appeals in 'Blackshirt' and 'Action' not only enabled poorer members to have a free holiday, but financed a profit-generating operation for the Movement.



Mosley in Action Press uniform at Pagham camp



British Union Cadets enjoy the beach at the 1937 Selsey camp

members by giving them food and employment. The Camps were a genuine attempt by British Union to put into practice the things we preached."

The classless spirit and camaraderie of the Camps as the People's State of British Union in embryo was a concept widely felt among campers. Mosley, who foresaw the establishment of many such camps in the coming years, and who figures frequently in these photographs, certainly thought so.

Another old Blackshirt recalls those exhilarating days. "Instead of the grim, clenched-jaw faces you

-SEA

saw at the meetings and marches, when you could be slashed with a razor at any time, everyone was smiling and relaxed and happy.

"I thought, this is what it's going to be like when Mosley wins power." One is reminded again of how tragically brief was the life of British Union. For Selsey, 1937, the biggest British Union organised camp of all, proved also to be the last. For the men and women of British Union, the summers of 1938 and 1939 were to be spent campaigning for peace. And the summer of 1940 was to find many in the camps of



Campers greet Mosley at Selsey in 1937

internment, while for others over the next few years, it was the prisoner of war camps of Europe and the Far East.

Jeremy Booker is to be commended on his enterprise, diligence and an altogether fascinating narrative which also gives an account of other BU camps as well as Union Movement camps of the late-forties and 'fifties. The numerous remarkable photographs he has unearthed are worth the price of the book alone. These were ordinary people doing extraordinary deeds in a magnificent cause. "The Spirit Lives, the Rest Will Follow." Here in words and pictures, is something of that Spirit.



Mosley in silhouette speaking to campers at Selsey

To obtain a copy of this book send a cheque or P.O. for £12 made out to 'BROCKINGDAY' to the following address: Brockingday Publications, 27, Old Gloucester Street, London, WC1N 3XX. All U.K. orders are sent post free.

"It is said that we belong to the era in our lives when we first became aware that all is not well with the world and we begin to form practical and philosophical ideas. By this theory I belong to the 'thirties' "

TESTAMENT OF FAITH



Louise Irvine in 1937

The early 30's in some ways were depressing years, and yet at the same time years of great ideals and optimism, a time for visionary and courageous leadership. Sadly none of the old political parties could rise to this. I was in Birmingham at the time where slum areas of back-to-back houses still existed, a condition prevalent throughout Britain. It was the time for government to make sweeping reforms, and put great new housing schemes into operation. But nothing was moving and this was the point in time at which I accepted the dynamic policies of Oswald Mosley. I became a member of B.U.F in 1936, and found within its ranks a comradeship which has become life-long. I also met my future husband here.

We were a complete cross-section of the community - men and women - working for a belief in a better future. For me 1936-39 were three short years of exhilaration and hope, shared with so many others. These are probably some readers who remember successful meetings in Aston, Ladywood, the Bull Ring, Walsall and all the surrounding districts, and selling ACTION in New St. There were many of us who devoted all our spare time to working for the movement, maintaining our Head Quarters, which was a book shop with offices above. We saw our membership grow. With the passage of time many old comrades sadly are no longer with us, but there are still

By Louise Irvine

some of you who will remember Stafford St., and later Colehill St. H.Q. We built up a team of forceful speakers and for the younger element formed a cadet drum corp. We also attended many of Oswald Mosley's large meetings, culminating in the great Earls Court meeting in July 1939, still hoping for peace. Then came the declaration of War in September 1939, and the setting aside of politics, and the realisation that Europe was to be torn apart once again.

The war years included 1 1/2 years internment, followed in my husband's case by 4 1/2 years military service.

In 1945, after the death and destruction caused by the war we were faced with a completely different world situation, and a changing society. In 1951 my husband and I motored through Europe to visit an old friend in Regensburg in South West Germany. Every where there was evidence of war time bombing, but also hope was returning, a re-building was proceeding at a furious pace. In Germany we took miles of 'Road Diversions' where road reconstructions were going on. Regensburg, a beautiful town on the Danube, is full of European history, from Roman times onward. At the time of our visit it was in the American occupation zone and our friend always introduced us to her fellow Germans as 'English - Not Americans!' We were welcomed with an extra ordinary lack of hatred or bitterness. It was this trip that completed our feeling of 'Europeanism' and that we in Britain are very much a part of Europe. Oswald Mosley was again ahead of his time in his thinking when in 1948 he declared his concept of Europe a Nation. As far back as 1936 he said that Europe should be united, not divided. His ideas never stagnated, they grew and developed. The roots are in the 1930's and from there the strength comes. Oswald Mosley's ideas are still progressing.

Gulag II

Dear Sir,

The BBC are to be congratulated in producing a three hour epic documentary on the infamous Soviet Gulag system reviewed by Gordon Beckwell in the last Comrade. The more remarkable aspect of this production was it actually being shown! It must be acknowledged that in the west the gallery of 20th Century demons suffer a great deal of imbalance, with Germany continually berated under the fairly recently coined generic term 'Holocaust'. Apologists for Stalin being strategically placed in academia and the media are able to raise 'doubts' about Stalin and his reign of terror.

This is exemplified by the treatment of Vladimir Brovkin, a distinguished historian as reported in the American journal, *New Republic*. Yale University in its ongoing revelations of Communism series invited Brovkin to submit his ideas for a detailed look at the history of the Gulags. Brovkin's proposals ran to a seven volume treatment on the subject. When this definitive study reached the elders of Yale, all hell broke loose "Excessively anti-Bolshevik" said one, Gulag prisoners were sent "in accordance with the law of the land" said another. The advisory group rejected the idea.

Historians sympathetic to the Soviet way of crime and punishment prosper in the west. Those who seek a true perspective suffer. Communism is not dead. It is still beating in the hearts and minds of radical circles away from the gunfire. What sympathetic academics and media people fail to understand is that historically, once Communism gets the upper hand the first to go to the stake are the so called intelligensia.

Remember Katyn?

Yours in Union,
Harold Selway

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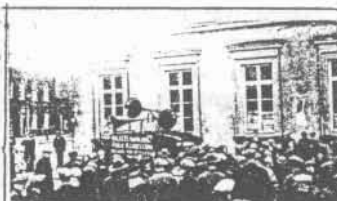


Miss Lucillia Reeve
in 1937

The vast area of sandy Norfolk heathland between Thetford and the Fens, known as Breckland was an unforgiving landscape. Its worth a hundred years ago being little more than a reasonable days shoot for rabbit and deer. Great efforts were made over the intervening years to bring this bracken and rabbit infested land into more productive use by forestation and agriculture. Careful husbandry did sustained small close knit communities such as the villages of West Tofts, Langford, Tottington and Thompson. Into this fiercely independent area. Lucillia Maud Reeve was born, out of wedlock, on Tuesday 28th March 1889. She started her working life as a domestic servant. Committed to self education and with her mother, Polly's encouragement, she went on to working her way through agricultural college and at a very early age became the land agent for Lord Walsingham's Merton Estate which covered great tracts of Breckland, possibly the first qualified woman to hold such a post in the country. Her spirit of independence and honesty came to the fore in the wake of the First World War. Traumatized like so many others by the needless slaughter and mourning of so many she had known in her childhood, she strongly objected to the local vicar's proposal to mount nothing more than a small plaque in the church to commemorate the fallen. She arranged a public meeting and managed to overturn the proposal calling for a stone obelisk to remember not just the dead of the surrounding villages but also the returnees. She raised the money with support from the villagers, found a site and on Armistice Day 1919 unveiled a fitting memorial to the sacrifice of a generation. In

BRECKLAND BATTLER

Reynell Bellamy's unpublished history of the B.U.F. 'We Marched with Mosley' he recalls Miss Reeve as "a woman of considerable charm, culture and erudition, witty, hospitable and very good company she was nicknamed 'Red Angel' because she drove a scarlet coloured sports car. She was also a very good shot. There was nothing masculine in her make up, she dressed fashionably and was not adverse to the company of attractive and eligible men". She never married, undoubtedly being a victim of that generations imbalance between the sexes because of the men lost on the Western Front. As agriculture



The overflow meeting
at Swaffham in 1935
which Miss Reeve had
come to heckle

declined in the 1930s tenanted farms on the Merton Estate fell vacant. At her instigation new enterprises were introduced to make use of the land such as large scale rearing of ducklings for the table. In 1935 she noticed an advertisement for a Mosley meeting in the Breckland town of Swaffham. She decided to attend with the intention of heckling but later admitted being won over by the policy and in 1937 was adopted as B.U.F. prospective parliamentary candidate for South West Norfolk. The following year she decided to take on one of the estate farms. In keeping with her pragmatic approach of "making a sixpence stretch to half a crown" she thought of wiring off her land to keep out the all destructive rabbits. Her method was to twice plough in the weeds with a covering crop as a cheap way to sustain soil nutrients (surely an early example of the green culture) and help her cash flow with a spot of tourist bed and breakfast. She thought she had a winning formula. Full of expectations about her ventures she nevertheless remained very much aware of the political realities of the time. Writing in September 1938 issue of *The Blackshirt* she drew attention to men "clad in corduroy trousers and

open necked shirts - looking like farmworkers returning from the harvest field - who were the unemployed men from the mines and factories of the North. Men who should be making the farm implements needed to restore the land; and who eat meat from the Argentine and eggs from China, because international finance must flourish. My prayers for myself were stopped by a wave of anger that these things should be, and I vowed anew that never should my labours for British Union slacken until we had a restored British Agriculture and Industry, and all men should be employed. We have the land and we have the men, and we must see to it that something is done"



Lucillia Reeve with
Sir Oswald Mosley at
the time she became
a Parliamentary Candidate

After considerable progress over the next two years a cruel twist of fate took a hand. She was woken one morning in May 1940 to find her farm house surrounded by armed police. An all day interrogation followed. Finally convinced that despite her campaigning for Mosley's British Peace campaign she was not a threat to national security, they let her go. That evening she returned to her farm minus her collie dog that had been stolen by a member of the armed guard whose excuse to her was because she was to be interned he would ensure her dog found a good home. She never saw her collie again. By this time the wholesale requisition of land by the military for manoeuvres raised doubts on the commercial viability of Breckland. In June 1941 the blow fell, long standing Breckland villages were to be evacuated. A major part of her land was included. The land she had so carefully brought back into fertility for crops and livestock was to be

devastated. She retreated to the edge of the newly created battle zone. Within months the deserted villages were good target practice only the churches were spared. Her new 'home', a converted poultry hut at the edge of a field surrounded by what she could salvage from her yard and barns.

Before and during the war she was often ostracised for being a Mosleyite but untold kindnesses are remembered by people who recall her anonymously giving away meat and sugar rations to the needy in a local old folks home.

At the end of the war, the thought of deregulation of the land and a chance to return to what was left of her home sustained her, it was not to be. After years of political prevarication and promises, the government decided to make the Stamford Battle area a permanent fixture. Rumour was to only pay compensation at the pre-war rate. Which in time of the 1930s recession was extremely low. At every street corner a spiv was to be found selling goods in short supply and many 'entrepreneurs' making a fortune based on shortage the Ministry "thought it was unseemly for people to benefit from war".



Just outside the
battle area stands
the monument to war
dead, and to
Lucillia Reeve

This was the final blow, Miss Reeve had thought the compensation money based on current values would provide a sparse but comfortable retirement.

Disillusioned this woman of strong convictions, aged 61, took her own life. So at last she did return to her native village for burial—within the Stamford battle area.

How the B.U.F. came to Geordieland

We continue early Blackshirt and D-Day paratrooper ROBERT RICHARD's abridged memoirs of Newcastle BUF Branch.

During the 1932-34 formative years he had replaced full-time employment with casual work in order to devote more time to Movement activities. After returning from the BUF's 2 month South West Agricultural Tour in which a 3-strong team brought Blackshirt policies to small towns and villages, he married and needed to return to full-time work.

This, he records, reduced his activity in this third year, his dedication however leading later to his appointment to District Leader.

4. Consolidation

The New Year message from NEW District Officer JACK LYNNE to Newcastle branch members was that 1935 would see the completion of four years of the National Government and with a General Election in early 1936 expect some awakening from the usual political apathy of the public.

"In the face of press misrepresentation we must continue and widen our Blackshirt efforts in 1935 in getting the Mosley Message to our people".

The number of sales pitches in the City centre was extended by reducing and redirecting Blackshirt sellers to new locations. After several weeks the practice reverted to the original idea of a 'sales team' being allocated a single pitch, it being adjudged that the 'team' made a greater visual impact, and further, literature sales reflected the advantage of the team method. New or more pitches would only be operated when a constant team strength became available, the criteria being the capability to cover a new sale-point for a minimum of one hour on Friday evening and Saturday afternoon or evening. An effective team would require a 'call-up' strength of five personnel.

During the late spring of '35, the local Young Conservatives issued a semi-private challenge to debate: "BUF - Political Aims". This was accepted and a meeting took place in a local hotel. With around 30-40 young people present including Jack Lynne and 1/2 dozen uniformed colleagues, it lasted almost three hours though as a 'Debate' perhaps questionable.

It resulted however in a second invitation from a group of Young Conservatives, it being accepted with the condition that a number of them would attend a BUF mid-week members meeting. The

election but concentrate on building up the movements infrastructure.

The National Government upheaval gave rise to press coverage far above normal. Article after article and column upon column; front page banner headlines relating to one or the other political problems to the exclusion of all else became the daily norm.



Mosley and his Blackshirts in the Haymarket Newcastle in 1934

upshot was several of these young people enrolled in the BUF. I recall at least two became active members.

In retrospect this apparent disaffection within the local Young Conservatives is of interest because it coincided with significant changes in the Premiership of the of the multiparty National Government. Prime Minister and former Labour Party Leader Ramsey MacDonald resigned on grounds of ill health and Conservative Stanley Baldwin took over as Prime Minister who reduced and reformed the size and content of his Cabinet to approximately 72% Conservative, 18% Liberal and 10% Labour. Baldwin also announced that there would be "No return to 'Old Party' politics at the next general election".

There was soon strong rumours, highlighted nation-wide in the press, that he would not wait long before wanting a change in government policy direction and would be seeking a new mandate. Four months later he announced a general election for November 1935.

With the slogan 'Fascism Next Time' Mosley had decided the B.U.F. would not contest the

No matter what the political colour of the newspaper all had one thing in common; reporting was manipulative rather than objective.

In retrospect, an awesome demonstration of the 'Power-of-the-Press' equal to that the international 'Money Power'.

There was also a further common factor: the complete press silence to anything relating to Sir Oswald Mosley and British Union.

During this period Newcastle Blackshirts extended to five regular sales-pictures in the City-centre. For a total of six hours over Friday and Saturday, the 5 pitches was manned continuously by four uniformed members, a total of 20 Blackshirts selling literature in the compact area at one time.

Come the General Election campaign period further street sales were brought into operation. Working in pairs for 15 to 20 minutes at each point Blackshirts would be seen moving around a much wider area. Theatre and cinema queues, railway and bus stations at peak periods and selected street corners. This supplementary activity took place throughout the campaign period, the visible presence of Blackshirts

with placards served the purpose of keeping the BUF in the public eye and combating the press silence.

On each of the Saturday mornings during the campaign period, an organised information centre took place in three electoral constituencies other than the central.

A group of about 20 Blackshirts would assemble close to a suburban shopping area, form into a marching column and parade for about 150 yards, wheel around and march back over the same route. They then split into 3 or 4 small parties and deployed to distribute literature to shoppers and leaflet door to door nearby streets of dwellings ultimately returning to HQ for debriefing. I recall one meeting particularly noisy, unlike those held in the summer months. the Reds and 'pacifists' combining the chant 'disarmament' slogans until heavy rain ended all activities.

With this memory comes the end of this third year since the founding of the BUF, and the only General Election in the brief life of the BUF.

Nevertheless there was a high level of participation in the Election campaign. The turnout throughout Britain averaged 71%, widely reported as reflecting apathy.

In the Newcastle Central constituency in which the greater concentration of Blackshirt activities occurred, Labour registered 11% and the successful Conservative 22% less than the 1931 Election.

Mere apathy it was again suggested.

No-way - no-way.

The British Union writing was on the wall.

So we thought.

With the words of our Leader Oswald Mosley in our very being:

"When we began we could not tell whether it would take us three years or thirty years to make our Movement, for our part we did not care how long it took us, we only meant to do the job that had to be done".

[To be continued]

Since the last instalment in *Comrade No.46* the author has redacted, enhanced and retitled his manuscript *British Union 1932-1939: 'Geordie' Recollections*

This is available to bona fide researchers at the Department of History, University of Sheffield.

CHARLES ATHELSTAN HALL, F.R.G.S



Sadly we announce the death of Charlie Hall, the former British Union Assistant District Leader (Sales) for Richmond Upon Thames, on Monday August 9th 1999 at the age of 88. FOM was represented at the funeral.

Charlie was born in Kingston Upon Thames and took his middle name from one of the seven Saxon kings crowned in the town. He rallied to Mosley's standard in 1935 and soon became an active 'Division One' member working closely with Paul Mahish Bahadar, the Indian-born District Leader for Richmond who was an actor by profession. Although Charlie attended all major Leader meetings and marches in London during his period of service, his over-riding memory of this period was "standing hour after hour, week after week on freezing cold pavements at Heron Court and outside the 'Orange Grove' pub selling copies of Action and The Blackshirt." But he also vividly remembered Mosley speaking in Richmond on at least two occasions to audiences that packed the Prince's Hall.

When interviewed in 1990 for the FOM Sound Archive, he also recalled attending a meeting held by William Joyce in neighbouring Kingston. The local Reds decided to send in teams of women interrupters knowing that chivalrous male Blackshirt stewards would be reluctant to manhandle them. But the local branch got wind of the manoeuvre and had their own women stewards waiting to eject the Red "termagants" from the Wood Street Baths Hall with usual Blackshirt efficiency.

Charlie Hall was rounded up under regulation 18B in 1940 even though he had joined the 26th Anti Aircraft S/L Battalion of the Royal Engineers to assist in the defence

of Britain. He was one of the 'Budd Boys' who successfully gained their release by bringing a legal action against the British Government. All were immediately re-arrested - except Charlie who enjoyed several weeks of freedom. When he heard that Special Branch were looking for him, he boldly presented himself at Special Branch Headquarters in Scotland Yard. They asked him where he had been hiding to which he replied that they must be idiots because all that time he had been living openly next to Richmond Police Station where he was well-known. His internment lasted several years and much of that time was spent in the Isle of Man. In a war time 18B detainees' autograph book, currently in the Library of the Imperial War Museum, Charlie wrote 'We haven't seen the worst yet. Remember that, stand together and Die Hard for British Union.'

After the war, Charlie Hall joined the Bournemouth branch of Union Movement where he was active in promoting Mosley's policy of 'Britain First in Europe a Nation'. He took part in regular weekly sales of 'Union' and was present on the big 1950 march through the streets of Salisbury led by the UM London Drum Corps.

In the later years of his life, Charlie's long internment, and the attentions paid to him by Special Branch and M15, constantly preyed on his mind causing him (and his friends) much anxiety. He continued to maintain a close interest in politics until the end of his life and enjoyed nothing more than the annual reunion with other Mosley comrades held outdoors in the New Forest. There Charlie would sit among the sylvan glades waving his walking stick and putting the worlds to rights.

In his 1990 recorded interview, Charlie spoke about his early life and what motivated him to join the British Union.

'As a child during the First War I stayed in Folkestone with my aunt as it was considered safer from the Zeppelins than London. During the offensive on the Western Front you could hear the big guns going off across the Channel in France at Folkestone. Then a few days later the hospital ships began arriving in Folkestone Harbour and the wounded were carried off on stretchers. Each one had a label attached to them. I asked what they were and I was told that the word on the labels was 'GASSED'. It left a profound impression on me, nearly eighty

years later I can still see that terrible scene. I didn't want it to happen again, that was one of the reasons I fought so hard for the Blackshirts during the late 1930s. They were the only party that was against another war'.

Charlie was escorted on his last journey by 20 British Legionaries and Standard Bearer and members of the Royal Engineers Association and Standard Bearer. The coffin was covered by the R E flag and a poppy wreath.

IAN SOUTER CLARENCE

The Purbeck Hills of Dorset have lost one of its strongest supporters. Ian had until recent years, when he was crippled with Parkinson's Disease was with his dogs a landmark in those ancient English hills where he had also for many years organised the Eidelweiss Survival Group.

'The Major' as he was popularly known by the young men who 'suffered' his disciplined courses was actually a lieutenant. Joining his father and grandfather's old regiment, the Black Watch. During the last war he was commissioned and managed a transfer to the Parachute Regiment. He then made an unofficial visit to SAS HQ who accepted him.

At the end of the war his unit was posted to Norway to disarm the German Army Mountain Divisions who had undergone a fighting retreat through Finland from Northern Russia and had refused to hand over their arms to

the Norwegian Army. Many Norwegian volunteers who had fought with the Germans were involved. Clarence spent a lot of time with the Mountain Troops, and reported his favourable views to HQ which was not beneficial to his record.

He first came into contact with British Union, when a member lent him Mosley's **The Greater Britain**. It was not however until his return to civilian life that he joined Union Movement, and in recent years, continuing his long admiration of Mosley, associated himself with Friends of O.M and was most distressed that his health prevented his presence at our functions.

'The Major' had also taught at Sherbourne School where he was in charge of the Cadet Force, recognised as one of the countries top units. Many of the boys went on to become high ranking Army officers.

At his funeral service old boys of Survival and Cadet Force were represented together with F.O.M, and it is believed even the Special Branch and two with a wreath from 'The Regiment'. "To the very end" said one of those present, "he was loyal to his beliefs, a man who said if he would do something always kept his word. An honest man and a gentleman".

Although it had escaped him in his youth his dying wish was fulfilled. He was buried in a **Black Shirt**.

1 Millennium and the Memoriam

day events, and 'This blessed plot, this Realm, this England' is metaphorically sinking into the sea by weight of thousands of bogus asylum seekers whom recent history tells us will become permanent residents, adding to the legal and illegal immigrants who, with their descendants, are estimated to comprise one-fifth of the population of our capital city?

Or how about the almost total demoralisation of our police force by 'political correctness' after that dubious Government enquiry set up by those one-time would-be student rebels who have gained the seat of power but who in maturity have little experience of the real

world?

Or the judiciary and the British Armed Forces now coming under the same pressures, the latter who throughout our history has been the ultimate defence of our British way of life and now being neutered by those who govern?

With all this and more, who now in our political system speaks for the real Britain? Who with honesty and courage, a hall-mark of our Island race, defends that British way of life that has evolved over a Millennium, that legacy handed down by our forefathers, nourished in the blood of hundreds of thousands British young men who died before their time

Turn to page 11

W.J. West 1943-1999 ONE OF THE UNSUNG HEROES

If nothing else, William John West should be remembered for confirming what had been long suspected, the underhand methods used by government to check the progress of British Union. For years successive governments had blocked all avenues of truth by the fifty year rule, later reduced to thirty years and 'weeding', the pernicious and purging system that to this day ensures 'sensitive information' is destroyed prior to release in the Public Records Office. (A recent identified case is an Alexander Raven Thomson file where over a dozen pages are 'missing' ie destroyed, it can be presumed leaving a clean record without mention of his time at MI5s infamous Ham Common Interrogation Unit. Fortunately for Comrade readers Raven did write about this torture centre and an article is being prepared for a future Comrade.) A lot of revisionist writers have had to cross the Atlantic to get even a hint of the murky side of Churchill and his cronies. West was ahead of the government. He found the BBC Written Archives centre at Caversham. Here was an untouched treasure trove of

material that had missed official scrutiny which was turned into his seminal work, *Truth Betrayed*. Black broadcasting, Wolkoff, Joyce, the Verdun incident, vetting of broadcasters. Mosley's projected radio station, Airline, together with the manipulation of programmes to serve the interests of the Executive. Also included was Guy Burgess where West established moved into the secret service from the BBC. Information the government would like to have remained suppressed. Whilst the book did not receive its due worth of exposure it certainly upset the establishment. Repressive new rules were introduced at the Caversham archive by way of exorbitant fees, making it near impossible for researchers to spend the requisite time and money searching through the mountains of paper. The P.R.O National Newspaper Library and Family Record Centre are free to users, so much for Nation Speaking Peace Unto Nation. West had beaten the system, the cat was out of the bag, and for that alone we must give due tribute to an honest and courageous man.

Although now out of print copies can sometimes be found in second hand bookshops. Well worth hunting down.

ISBN: 0-7156-2287-0

Dr. William John Mitchell 1915 - 1999



We have to report the death at 84 of that familiar figure always present at Friends of OM social functions. Dr. William Mitchell, who was a fund of knowledge gained by the experience of his long life.

From a medical family originating in Scotland - his father, brother and sister were all General Practitioners. He trained at Guy's Hospital and remained a GP all his life in New Cross and Deptford where he was popular with his patients, including the immigrant population and their descendants.

That is apart from his stint in the Army during the last war to which he had been conscripted as a Captain. During his time stationed at Dover a session in the Mess hall where toasts were being made, he had the courage of his convictions and announced "A Toast to Sir Oswald Mosley". It was too much for the war hysteria raised in that so-called war for among other aims the freedom of the individual, and he was court-martialled.

A lover of music, Dr. Mitchell had made frequent visits to the Wagner Festivals before the war, which he continued post-war, and had developed a liking for the German people and realised that a brothers war between the two peoples would be a European tragedy of immense proportion.

Providing service and dedication to the British people until he was 78, he even then continued as a locum one morning a week. It was at one of his surgeries that he

AS WE GO TO PRESS we hear with deep sorrow the death of our old comrade BOB ROW, former editor of UNION and ACTION and contributor to COMRADE. We will miss his articles and views. A full tribute will be made in our next issue.

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

BANGS, Lt. Jack P. LHR/Sush-
ex Regt. (attchd Gloucesters): 20: killed in action Stampsstate, Holland: one of three Brighton Br. British Union lost in in W2: lies in Guel Cemetery Belgium. 3 November 1944

BUCKNELL, Sgt. Ronald: RAF (VR): RAF 83 Sqn: 24: missing Berlin Op: Croydon British Union: remembered Air Force Memorial, Runnymede. 15 November 1944

GILLIES, W/O John B: RAF (VR): RAF 511 Sqn: crashed off Portreath, Cornwall: one of pupils of Leytonstone City High Sch who joined Leytonstone Br. British Union lost in W2: 26: remembered Air Force Memorial, Runnymede. 30 November 1943

GRANT, Sgt. F.A.J.: RAF (VR): RAF 102 Sqn: 22: lost on Mannheim Op.: Falling British Union, editor Br. newsletter 1939/40: lies Abbeyville General Cemetery France. 6 December 1944

MORGAN, G.W. 'Jock': A/B, RN: lost HMS Repulse off Malaya: 23: Lido: then Bethnal Gr. British Union: remembered Plymouth Naval Memorial. 10 December 1941

WHITE, Lt. Albert E: RN (VR): lost IM Trawler Northern Rover: 36: Lido: British Union: remembered on Lowestoft War Memorial. 5 November 1939

10 Millennium and the Memoriam

World Wars?

Some might think we should be celebrating a Millennium of all those things that moulded the British character in its long march to greatness. But our decline following the last disastrous war seems to rule against it now.

Instead this man-made moment in time seems likely to be no more than a special episode of some soap opera designed for top TV ratings.

'Farewell to one thousand years of British culture'

But perhaps I have misunderstood the reason for the coming celebrations. Perhaps as we cross that dividing line it will be time to 'Ring out the old, Ring in the new' as we bid farewell to one thousand years of British

culture and, at the same time, salute the dawn of Tony Blair's 'New Britain' as we gaze on the creation of a new legacy for our children and children yet unborn.

Farewell you Royal Throne of Kings, you Scepter'd Isle, you Precious Stone set in a Silver Sea, you Happy Breed of Men. The future beckons as an island outpost of the Third World dedicated to invisibility in the misty northern seas.

'That England that was
wont to conquer
others,
Hath made a shameful
conquest of itself,
Ah, would the scandal
vanish with my
life

How happy then were
my ensuing death!

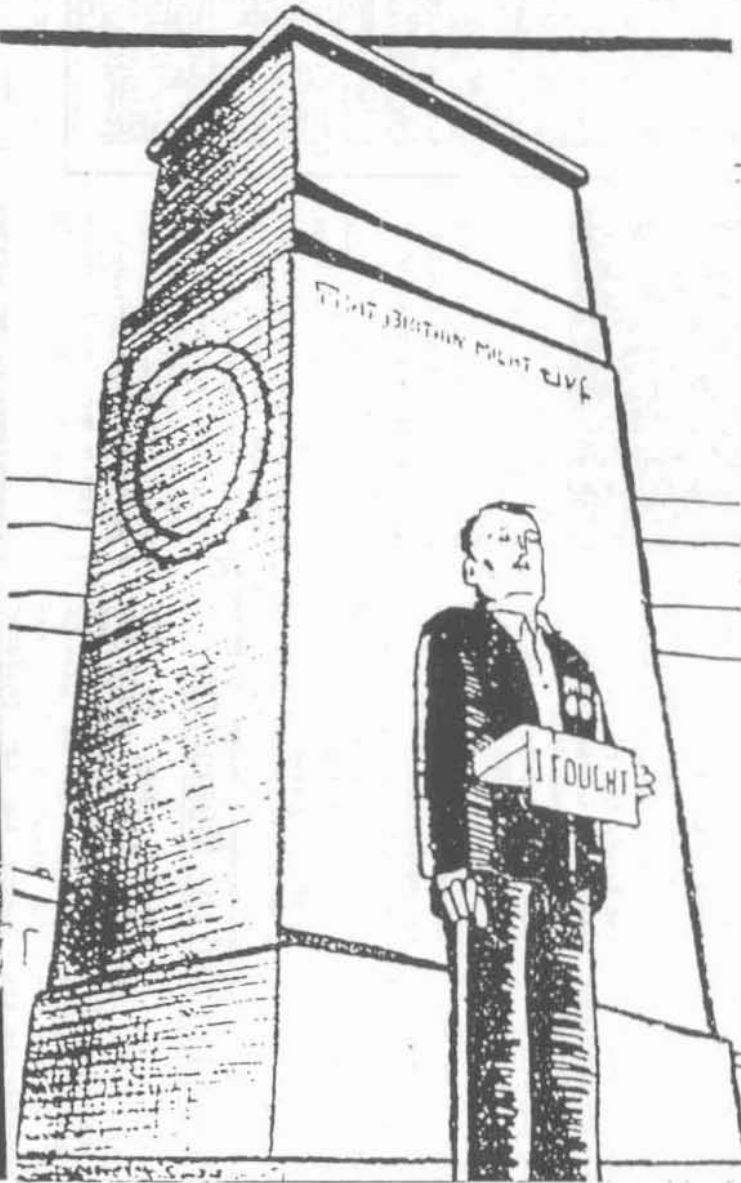
William Shakespeare

caught a virus from a patient after five weeks this proved too much for his aging body.

One would have thought he had life long immunity from such body invasion as Dr. Mitchell was one of the first British doctors to enter the German concentration camps in 1945, the advancing British troops held back for 100 yards as he moved among the typhoid and other disease racked unfortunate inmates. His experiences and diagnosis of those events made him reject totally the reasons perpetuated into history by the victor nations.

His life an example of all that was honest and true, very much needed in today's society if this land of ours is to survive as a people that once led the world in such service. We who try and carry this torch salute you Dr. Mitchell.

WE NEVER FORGET



OR FORGIVE THE WASTE

COMRADE

Incorporating ACTION and UNION

Newsletter of Friends of O.M.

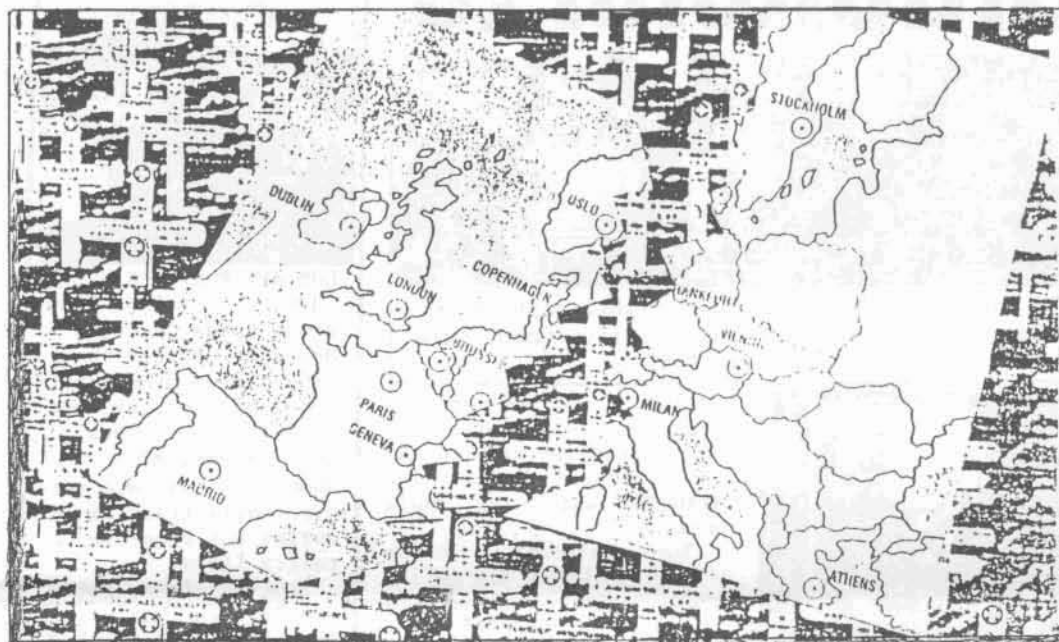


No. 53

'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'

December 2000

The Legacy of a Divided Europe



NEW LABOUR made a good start in their plan to 'abandon the trappings of Empire'. Their plan to cut the pay of gardeners who tend our War Graves around the world was then abandoned following public outrage.

As if we of the last War generation could ever forget.



"TO LADY MOSLEY, Happy Birthday" at a small lunch party hosted by, according to Tatler Magazine and Daily Mail, '17 veteran Blackshirts from London who came over to Paris on Eurostar for her 90th Birthday' Touché!

By Michael Quill

Has war been banished forever? Apart from United Nation's Korean War and USA's Vietnam there had only been minor conflicts since 1945, such as the USA and Tony Blair's guided missiles and scattering of cluster bombs on Yugoslavia, blowing to smithereens mainly civilians. There were no British casualties, no one inconvenienced, and our politicians could play at being 'warlords'.

But only fools will look at the larger world and be unaware of the potential dangers. Thousands are dying in armed struggle and civil wars as never before and tin-pot dictators have developed, or nearly so, atomic weapons. Globalisation, the 'in' name for international finance dominated 'free trade', is driving more and more countries into starvation and despair.

Such situations have always led to major wars. The great Roman Empire was brought down by revolt of its slaves.

In this powder-keg situation a Europe united is essential for our survival. Resulting from that last disastrous war, fought in total negation of British interests, we no longer control one quarter of the globe, or 'rule the waves'. Neither can we and our European brother States rely in perpetuity on American armed might which with its own internal problems might not in the future be forthcoming.

We do not mean the shambles of Europe we have today, run by 20 'clapped-out' 'deadbeat' and often corrupt politicians, failed in their own country and now running Europe. The Commission has no real duties to perform so they interfere in everything. The Devil always finds work for idle hands.

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

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aysia: 23: 11: house then
National Gr. British Union:
remembered Plymouth Naval
Memorial. 10 December 1941

Europe must have a Government which clearly defines duties in the areas that in a shrinking world that one country cannot efficiently manage alone. They must be men and women of high calibre accountable to the directly elected European Parliament, not failed politicians landed with cushy job.

All other matters should be left to the National Parliaments and Governments. A clear division of responsibilities. No more clap trap about European Courts and Human Rights. We have always looked after these without the aid of millionaire lawyers making their fortunes. No more having to change our ways for no good reason. (And this goes also for our own home grown 'politically correct' politicians legislating to destroy our traditions and culture.)

'Let we former European tribes unite'

Let the diversity of the Europeans be the strength of Europe a Nation. Let we former warring European tribes unite in Mosley's 'Extension of Patriotism'. Together we Europeans in ever striving for higher forms can build the greatest civilisation the world has ever seen.

As Mosley ended his 'The Alternative': "All things are now possible; and all will be achieved by the final order of the European".

'THEIR CREED was not just a political programme,...it was a way of living and interpreting the conditions of their experience...These men and women did not merely wear a Blackshirt. They became Blackshirts'

Concluding thesis Becoming Blackshirts: Ideology, Culture, and the British Union of Fascists, 1932-1940, 1998 by Michael Spurr, BA (Hons), Monash University, Australia.

ROBERT ROW



ROBERT ROW, 83, editor of Union then Action, died after a minor operation as the last COMRADE went to press, as we briefly reported.

Bob, as he was universally known, joined the Lancaster Branch of BUF in 1934 at 17 and 7 weeks later had a letter published in The Blackshirt, a portent of what was later to become his life work with Union Movement's press. His District Leader was Bill Eaton, one of the few awarded the Movements Gold Distinction for service. It was to be a lasting family relationship through thick and thin.

The young Bob threw himself into Blackshirt activity which in those early days attracted violence from the Red mobs, providing they outnumbered the Blackshirts! One of Bob's stories in later life was that "every time I went out to a march or meeting, my mother said: 'make sure you have clean underclothes. You might end up in hospital'!"

Come the war, he and his hero Bill Eaton, were jailed, not because of disloyalty, but to silence their voice opposing the war, a legal activity enshrined in British history. As Bob has written: "There was no charge or trial. Banana republic justice replaced these. Trial by jury was scrapped. So was Habeas Corpus. So much for the honour of British politicians".

Released later in the war he joined the Army and saw service in Palestine when in 1946 Jewish terrorists were attacking the

One of those Blackshirts



The younger Bob Row, second right, with Black-shirt comrades in Peel Concentration Camp, Isle of Man in 1942



An older Bob speaking at the 1996 Mosley Centenary Dinner

British Administration. This included the blowing up of King David's Hotel with the death of many British soldiers and the hanging of kidnapped British sergeants in an orange grove, the very men who had defeated the Jewish arch enemy, Adolf Hitler in a bloody war.

Released from the Army, Bob became an agricultural labourer in Surrey and started to send articles to Union which editor Raven Thomson recognised of their quality and published. He was so impressed that in the early 1950s he asked Bob to become his deputy, ensuring his future role in the Mosley story. With Raven's death in 1955, Bob became editor which lasted until the closure of Sanctuary Press in 1992.

He remained dedicated to his beliefs inspired by Mosley in the 1930s and his continuation of

thought, not only to his Leader's death, but in his interpretation afterwards, and produced articles for COMRADE which we shall miss.

This obituary cannot fully evaluate his influence on projecting Mosley's thought and his part in it. We were fortunate for his contribution to COMRADE 48 in 1998 when he was persuaded to write his Testament of Faith - he was opposed to personal publicity.

So long Bob old comrade. We miss your thoughts of the past, present and future. But they will live on, and if Britain is to survive by renaissance, will play their part and be recognised for their worth.

Michael Quill writes

I first met Bob in the mid-1950s when engaged in my primary interest of anti-communist research and learned a lot from him. My deep respect for his intellect, knowledge, modesty and unshakeable loyalty grew over the years. In my view he was the ablest editor of ACTION in its long history and a powerful journalist who deserved access to the wider media. Totally dedicated, in addition to getting the paper out, he produced week after week, extensive memorandum directly for Mosley, with creative suggestions of

BATTERED BUT UNBOWED



BOB AFTER ATTACK by 20-year-old Jewish Yellow Star group thugs on Union Movement offices in 1963. Three other staff were injured, two hospitalised. Premises were extensively damaged. Six men were eventually tried at Old Bailey but received paltry fines.

Shortly after, Bob received further injuries when attacked in his suburban street on returning from office. Four men came out of the trees to 'finish him off'. He received further injuries before the thugs made a hasty retreat. Did they really think he could be silenced?

He was a Blackshirt.

his own. Mosley once said: 'He is the only man who has observed my economic thinking'. Bob would go out of his way to help enquirers with rare information, whether cuttings patiently pasted on to paper or private letters faultlessly typed in his distinctive style. His erudition ranged from patriotic poetry to Ancient Greece.

My affection only increased whenever he tactfully terminated my time-wasting gossip, cheerfully to resume his office labours, and even more when I learned how he survived, albeit shyly, several undesired personal vicissitudes.



ROBERT ROW

Bob never saw his life-long dream come true, but if there is a heaven, he'll certainly be there with that friendly nod, shirtsleeves and typewriter, and the eternal milk and crackers.

From USA, Bill Eaton, son of Bob's District Leader writes: Bob was a great walker and I recall that when he returned on holiday I was with him and my father tramping the Lake District hills, and although I emigrated I kept in touch through the years. His mother told me that his father worked for the well known Waring and Gillow, and was sent to Cuba to decorate the House of Assembly. Bob she said won a national essay writing competition when a schoolboy - the first indication of his writing talents. Later he worked for a well known Lancashire firm but was fired for his political activities. ●

And John Christian: Bob Row was not only a comrade in Mosley's crusade. He was also my friend.

I first met him when he became deputy editor to Raven Thomson. My wife and I 'put him up' for some months while he was finding accommodation. In the next few years we maintained the relationship by frequently having him to dinner after which, with much discussion, we finished off a bottle of Scotch!

The years went by and advancing years required almost total devotion to my professional life. Bob also retreated into a 'shell'. He had organised his life into a disciplined regime in which evening dinners were 'out' and he seemed to exist on a tomato, a piece of cheese, a cream cracker and a tablet of Vitamin C, the latter of which he became an exponent! We still had telephone talks and occasionally I called at his office and spent an hour in discussion, with not a bottle of Scotch in sight, but endless coffees and infernal weeds!

With the death of Sanctuary Press Secretary Jeffrey Hamm in 1992, Bob's role became untenable and I was

given the unpleasant job of winding up the Company, albeit with Bob's agreement as a Director.

I was in fact greatly disturbed for Bob, the office had become for him his 'home', for years arriving at 7 am and leaving at 7 pm. However he adjusted to his new life, even though he said 'My room is smaller than my cell at Walton Gaol'.

In the countdown of both our years we met at intervals at my flat for the odd mid-day hours with a coffee, Bob having forsaken the infernal weed, and the Scotch just a relic of the past!

When my wife died 3 years ago, I did not anticipate his presence at the funeral because I knew he disliked such occasions. But there he was, clutching a small bunch of flowers bought on his way, with the words of 'she always spoke her mind'. Before I had time to speak to him he was gone.

I received his last letter written the day before he died. It arrived with his landlord's letter informing me of the event. Something of a shock but it was right that I should suffer it. Perhaps because we were fellow Lancastrians we understood each other, but above that was that great union of Mosley's men who in their youth had challenged the forces of corruption and decay.

And so, several old and not so old comrades who had known him for many years, gathered at his interment to bid him farewell, accompanied by his niece from the North who later wrote: "We took his ashes up to a point where he and his brothers frequently cycled when young, with lovely views of Lancaster and the coast, and returned him to his native soil".

Farewell? Not entirely true because Bob Row lives on just as Mosley lives and perhaps this scribe will live on. Our lives we claim remain untainted by the decadence of most of the 20th Century. We will be remembered by those who follow. We ask nothing more.

● IT MIGHT HAVE HAPPENED TO YOU 1943, edited and republished by Bill Eaton. Details next issue.

I WAS AN EAST LONDON BLACKSHIRT

says Fred Bailey

MY FATHER was a Black-shirt in the 1930s. As a young boy I listened to what he said and often went to Blackshirt meetings with him. When I became of age I joined the Movement, deciding that Mosley was a man of vision who knew what was wrong with Britain and had the ideas to put things right. He went onto the streets to reach the people and tell them for what he stood. He was a man who always led from the front.

What were his policies that attracted so many people from the whole political spectrum and from so many different walks of life?

He said we should concentrate on trade with the Empire and keep out of foreign quarrels. 'Britain First' and 'Mind Britain's Business'. 'The War on Want is the War we Want'.

As it became obvious that there were strong forces bent on a war with Germany, he tried at meetings throughout Britain to oppose this policy for he knew it would have disastrous results for Britain. Win or lose, it would mean the end of Britain as a great power. It would cost untold lives and the loss of Empire, and went on saying it at every opportunity. When, despite his warnings Britain went to war even if not ready for it, and the Germans had chased us out of France, he then declared that if the Germans put a foot on British soil, we would fight to the last man. For reason of his opposition to the policy of war with Germany, despite his patriotism in declaring unity in fighting any invader of British soil, caused by our politicians' inadequacies he was made the scapegoat, and imprisoned for three years without charge or trial, for that reason alone and no other.

Who today can deny he was right?

As he predicted, after the war we lost our Empire. But he didn't live in the past and looked for another way ahead and formulated the policy and came back to the streets



Fred Bailey

with Europe a Nation. The establishment and press derided him and said his policy would never work, which is true with today's politicians of low calibre trying to implement a great concept which they cannot feel or know nothing about. Many of them nevertheless read his works on a United Europe, agree but have not the integrity to acknowledge the source.

Other serious issues emerged after the War which Mosley had the courage and intellect to address. With our Empire gone and our trading with them decreased, the economies of many former partners were brought to a standstill. Jamaica was the first to suffer when the Labour Government signed a trade pact with USA to buy aluminium ore, sugar and fruit from the American 'colonies'. This caused a mass immigration of unemployed Jamaicans to come here seeking work. One cannot blame them but it caused a lot of social problems that exist to this day.

Mosley once again faced the issue with a policy that would have given the immigrants a fair deal in their own countries, and our people in ours. He contested the General Election in North Kensington with a policy of resuming trade with our late Empire. He clearly stated that we do not attack people for what they were born, but for what they do if against

Turn to page 8

TO CREATE the political will to ensure that advances made by science are for the benefit of all the people. In the West it is true that most people have a reasonable living, but are working longer hours to achieve it and nearly a third of the World's population are starving.

A Crusade for the 21st Century

TO BUILD a financial and economic system to serve the needs of the people

"THE IDEA is no longer the martyred form of the oppressed, but the beginning of a higher form. Men are beginning not to look down, but to look up. And it is precisely at this point that a new way of political thinking can give a definite shape to what many are beginning to feel is a new urge of humanity. It becomes an impulse of nature itself directly man is free from the stifling oppression of dire primitive need."

Thus wrote OSWALD MOSLEY in "My Life". His thoughts have a relevance today. Communism has been shown as a self-defeating system only workable by tyranny and slave labour ending in poverty wherever it was tried. Fascism, born out of the holocaust of World War I, with its 'a plague on both your houses', succumbed to that strange partnership of Communist tyranny and the old democratic order that had shown to be incapable of solving the problem of those times, poverty in the age of plenty.

Today, all political parties embrace the 19th Century creed of 'market forces' designed for an age of poverty, which destroys all values in an age of plenty. Prime Minister Blair leads in chasing the will-of-the-wisp, the illusion of a 'Global Economy', and the churches seem unable to provide moral guidance as they join forces with the 'political correct'.

"The ideal of creating a higher form on earth" MOSLEY continued, "can now rise before men with the power of a spiritual purpose, which is not simply a philosophic abstraction but a complete expression of a deep human desire. All men want their children to live better than they have lived, just as they tried by their own exertions to lift themselves beyond the level of their

fathers whose affection and sacrifice often gave them the chance to do it. This is the right and natural urge in mankind, and when fully understood becomes a spiritual purpose."

In his book, "Europe, Faith and Plan" he wrote: "To believe that the purpose of life is a movement from lower to higher forms is to record an observable fact. If we reject that fact, we reject every finding of modern science, as well as the evidence of our own eyes ... It is necessary to believe that this is the purpose of life, because we can observe that this is the way the world works, whether we believe in Divine purpose or not. And once we believe that this is the way the world works and deduce from a long record that is the only way it can work, this becomes a purpose because it is the only means by which the world is likely to work in the future. If the purpose fails the world fails."

Under the policy of 'market forces' and 'global economy', advances in science are used to boost profits for capitalism. Even medical discoveries are patented and charged at ridiculous prices. The talk now is of 'designer babies' and a prolonged life span, but only for the very rich, those outside kept quite with the modern version of the Roman circus with a promised 200 TV channels.

There are many challenges still not met. The pollution by petrol engines that is destroying our planet, an ideal target for any government to make an electric or solar power car. Definitely possible, why is it not done? Ask Tony's mate the Chairman of BP Oil. There are many estates in the

North East that are beyond redemption, so badly run-down and the area economically deprived say the Housing Corporation. The destruction of our heavy industries that sustained the areas did not happen overnight. Why was it allowed to happen? Ask our Tony - he is MP for one of the areas. The Housing Corporation's solution is to demolish the estates and scatter the people elsewhere. All in the name of market forces.

Blair tells of more now in work. How many are mothers forced back to work by Government to get them off benefit, their small children deprived of her attention when they need it most? And she, collecting child from minder on way home, too exhausted to other than sit child before TV to keep it quite while she puts the pre-packed so-called 'ready meal' in the oven.

This is life for many under 'market forces'/global economy. The North today, Midlands tomorrow and even their pet South-East will catch a cold when the foreign owned banks decide to move from London.

The Challenge for the 21st Century generation is to seek and proclaim the faith that can inspire the British and European peoples. Some of the economic disasters created by world 'market forces' have been indicated and they will intensify. An ominous sign is the thousands of economic migrants, posing as asylum seekers, flooding into Britain and mainland Europe, victims of the global market forces. Trying to find a better way of life, poor devils, and we feel for them though it cannot go on though the politicians seem unable or unwilling



Mosley still shows the way

to solve the problem.

Britain and Europe must make ready to defend all that is best in our Western and Christian traditions. Britain can no longer do it alone.

At present there does not seem to be a military threat from Russia or China. A danger for which we should prepare is a militant Islam. The start of the 2nd Millennium saw Europe fighting to eject Islamic invaders from Europe in bloody conflict, their hordes reaching the gates of Vienna before driven out. Today Islam is entering Europe in huge numbers, not as an Army, but as migrants. When established they call for Muslim schools, political representation, and when large enough they demand a Muslim state. Remember Bosnia and Kosovo.

So apart from the down in our standard of life which must surely come, we must become aware of the threat to our Western and Christian heritage. Once again we turn to Oswald Mosley...

"He who can combine within himself this sanity and this dynamism becomes thereby a higher form... it is a personal ideal for which all can live, a purpose in life."

So with this new Century, we, the 'old guard' survivors who strode with Mosley in his long march, hand on the torch to a new generation that must find the faith, must find the will, to ensure that the struggle goes on and that Britain Shall Live.

ROGER PRIOR

Gordon Beckwell on JOHN BECKETT

JOHN BECKETT was a loose cannon, always a bit over the top. He was the MP who stole The Mace in the House of Commons as a protest and on another occasion had to be frog marched out of the Chamber by attendants.

But his heart was in the right place, at least in those early years. He was outraged by the hunger and malnutrition then prevailing among the British working class and the deprivation in which they were expected to bring up their children. So he joined the Independent Labour Party, the radical ginger group affiliated to the Labour Party and became one of its MPs.

At first he was full of admiration for his fellow ILPers like Jimmy Maxton, John Wheatley and John McGovern (whose nephew we remember in Union Movement). Even now they stand out like giants among pygmies in the history of the Labour Movement but after a while he became disillusioned with them: Loose cannon syndrome began to take effect. After careering about for a while causing untold damage, he left the ILP.

His next stop was The Blackshirts whom he joined in 1934. He was a powerful writer and a moving orator and one of the best speakers after Mosley. He also worked tirelessly and courageously for the cause he was supporting at the time so it is no surprise that he soon became British Union's Editor-in-Chief of all publications.

But after a couple of years he fell under the spell of William Joyce. The loose Cannon began to career about once more: he would criticise top BU officers like Francis Hawkins, Donovan and Raven Thomson behind their backs, called Mosley 'the Bleeder' and disobeyed his instructions in his absence.

The true circumstances of the departure of Beckett and Joyce from British Union have only recently come to light

and are not found in this book.

A former East London Blackshirt has told of their visit to East London branches when both were on NHQ staff but had been told their paid position would have to go. They thought their standing in East London was sufficient to persuade several of the big branches to defect to their soon-to-be-formed National Socialist League thereby providing a ready made mass membership. The East Enders would have none of it and reported them to NHQ. Mosley had no option and he expelled them.

So once again Beckett went charging off, this time into the National Socialist League of his latest hero, William Joyce. But within a year the Loose Cannon was on the move again. He turned against Joyce, whose NSL hardly got off the ground. Beckett appears to have suddenly noticed that Joyce had progressed into a paranoid anti-semitic. Why he had taken so long is surprising specially as Beckett himself was of Jewish extraction, a truth discovered by his son during the research for this book.

The next stop on Beckett's road to nowhere was to form the British Peoples Party. Loose Cannon Syndrome was not an option here mainly because he seems to have been the only active member except for the Duke of Bedford. As the Duke was payrolling the BPP and providing him with accommodation, he could not afford to fall out with him. Beckett knew he had made so many enemies that he was unemployable anywhere else.

The recently published The Rebel who lost his Cause, (London House, £20 ISBN 1 902809 04 1) is, like all good biographies an interesting study of human nature. It is written by John's son Francis Beckett, one time



JOHN BECKETT

President of the National Union of Journalists, who stands somewhere on the left of politics between the Hard Lefties and the Blair Softies. Although he comes down relentlessly on his father's 'political incorrectness' he still clearly admires many other aspects of his life.

Right at the beginning of the book the author states: 'The Friends of Oswald Mosley... have also helped me in every way they can, in the full knowledge that they were going to dislike pretty well everything I wrote and I thank them sincerely for it.'

Actually, not everything: only the fact that while Francis treats with caution his father's famous invective directed against almost everyone he worked with, he accepts at face value everything he wrote criticising Mosley. It is a common human failing that we are always willing to believe anything bad about someone we don't like -- and Francis Beckett certainly dislikes Mosley. But it is hardly helpful at arriving at historical truth.

If anyone doubts John Beckett's capacity for vitriol, let me quote some of the descriptions of Mosley in the book: 'an extravagance of abuse', 'things... clouded his judgement with so much anger that he could not see', 'newspapers already knew that John Beckett was generally good for an outrageous quote', 'he spoke with unrelieved denunciation', 'he was contemptuous', 'John's usual pungent and unrestrained language', 'he had a talent for turning a sentence, even if it was most often used for invective', and that his 'brain had been scorched and distorted by hate'.

Clearly, no objective author should take John Beckett's descriptions of Mosley, written only a year after his acrimonious split with British Union and repeated in this book, as automatically correct. Certainly, the always angry, bullying and deceitful character portrayed is not how we who worked with Mosley remember him. He drove his officials hard and was always immensely charming, always inspiring in a positive way and intensely loyal to his colleagues within the Movement. The author even criticises him for calling Blackshirt officers by their surnames. Though strange now, this was the convention at the time and generally used by the 'rank and file'.

Another 'fact' in the book that needs answering is the author's claim that Mosley planned to set up a 'pro-German radio station'. The whole point of the Air Time project, which foundered with the Declaration of War, was that it would broadcast only popular music (like Radio Luxembourg) bringing in advertising revenue to fund the Movement. If it had broadcast 'pro-German' or even 'pro-British Union' propaganda, the advertisers would have avoided it and the Project a failure.

The description of John Beckett's final years show the full extent of his decline. He scratched a living by publishing market information designed to help speculators in stocks and shares to grow richer.

So ends the story of the man who in the 1920-30s was an outspoken champion of the British working class.

If only Anger Management Courses at the Priory Clinic had been available during the inter war years, it might have been a different story.

I FIRST saw a mention of Jan Dalley's book when journalist A.E. WILSON wrote in the Daily Telegraph that it was so full of errors that it did not merit a serious review, and he did not do so.

So I thought I would save £20 and checked 10 reviews from the main journals. What at once struck me was however mistakes the book may contain the reviewers certainly had a field day. Every silly tale that has been propagated about Mosley's Blackshirts was given another airing.

One thing for sure, none of the reviewers had any idea what life was like in the 30s, most I assume were not even born. If they were they certainly know nothing about life in London, Manchester, Birmingham or any of the big British cities. The idea that big brawny Blackshirts were strutting about looking for people to beat up is the fairy tale background they all seemed to adopt. In fact people rallied to Mosley were mainly from that third of Britain's population described by John Boyd Orr in a 1936 report as being under-nourished through poverty, my family for example. Our regular Friday dinner was a two-penny Foster Clarke's tomato soup cube and a pound of potatoes costing a penny-halfpenny, for mother and five children. When Saturday came with the wages we could eat again. Perhaps, one day these so clever journalists will think a little before they parrot off the rubbish they have read in the newspapers. After all, they write them now!

Back to the reviews. It is hard to know where to start. Perhaps the most stupid and uncalled for remark are those that say Diana Mosley is 'evil', 'psychopath' and 'ruthless', just some of the labels they try to pin on her. I have known Lady Mosley through occasionally meeting her for about 50 years, and always found her a kindly, courteous lady. What answers their rubbish so completely is when she meets those ladies who shared her imprisonment during the war, and observe the great affection between them. One cannot spend over three years closely with someone and not find out if they

Jan Dalley's DIANA MOSLEY: A Life

Review of Reviews

..and DOUGLAS BADER 'Re-invented'

writes JOHN CHRISTIAN

"Douglas Bader undertaking an extremely dangerous flight behind enemy lines in order to drop a pair of artificial legs to Rudel" writes JAN DALLEY, the Poet Laureate's wife.

German flying hero HANS-ULRICH RUDEL lost a leg on Russian Front in 1945. Legless British Flying hero DOUGLAS BADER had been a POW in Germany for most of the war! The true story is described by 'JOHNNIE' JOHNSON in his book Wing Leader.



"We didn't accept the Luftwaffe's sporting and even chivalrous offer", safe conduct to drop BADER a spare set of legs..but would be dropped on a normal daylight bombing raid. "We provided escort...Heavy flak bracketed the bombers when the parcel was dropped...our new wing leader spoke distinctly over the radio so that the enemy would intercept and understand his message: 'We have dropped Wing Commander Bader's spare legs. I say again we have dropped Wing Commander Bader's spare legs 10 miles south-west of St.Omer'".

A.N.WILSON's view of the book justified?

were 'evil'. It is also evident with others that meet her and have known her for many years.

On what do these reviewers base their statements?

What seems to upset them most is that Diana Mosley had described Hitler when she first met him in 1934 as being 'humorous and a good mimic'. That was impression and she has not, and indeed could not, change what she thought then. They then bring in 'what about the holocaust' and imply she should not say anything nice about Hitler.

Many famous people went to meet Hitler at that time and said far more fulsome things than Diana Mosley. Should we all change our opinions because of the 'holocaust'?

Another big lie they repeat yet again is that of money given by Hitler and Mussolini to Mosley. The main people are all dead so we can't ask them. What facts are known? A founding member of the BUF was W.E.D. Allen who has been shown to have been a MI6 agent, indeed a senior one. In 1933 Major P.G. Taylor (actually James McGuirk-Hughes) joined the BUF offering to work for nothing as he had a good pension from MI5 from which he had just retired. He was later, in the first few months of the war, to

be still attached to that service as an agent provocateur. Both these men were close to the top of the BUF yet not a shred of evidence of the cash from abroad was ever produced at the time of wartime 18 detention. Such evidence would have been a Godsend to the Government to the day.

Incidentally, Bill Allen was the main advocate to try and get a commercial radio station in Heligoland, a Mosley project that without the war would have funded the BUF.

When the BUF published its 1938 accounts, certified by a major Chartered Accountant company, there was no sign of foreign money coming to the BUF.

When in 1947 Mosley published his first book after the War, the Home Secretary, Chuter Ede announced that a letter from Count Grandi, pre-war Ambassador to Britain, to Mussolini showing that money had been sent to Mosley. Mosley immediately invited the Home Secretary to make the statement outside the privilege of the House of Commons. No such statement or anything more was said. Grandi was not interviewed. All the investigative journalists must have been having a day

off.

After the death of Mosley lo and behold, David Irving found in Rome an identical letter to that quoted in 1947. Perhaps the Italians file everything in duplicate or perhaps Chuter Ede after reading it out in the House kindly popped it back where he found it!

I was in Rome the week after the US Army 'liberated' what had been declared an open City. It was swarming with men in ill-fitting uniforms emblazoned with the word AMGOT. They were searching the offices of the Italian Government that had by then left the City. The letter or any other evidence apparently was not then found.

Back to the Reviews. Two did fairly report Mosley's instruction to his members to fight for Britain whatever they thought of the politicians. They all did mention mention Major Tom Mitford, Diana Mosley's brother and member of BUF, but not that he was killed in action in the army in Burma.

Stupidities abound. One review claims that at an 'anti-fascist' Labour Party meeting in Hyde Park ended with the singing of the National Anthem, the one song Labour never sang. They preferred the Red Flag.

They also dragged 'racism' into the story. They do not wish to understand, as regards Mosley, that a political leader is right to attack those putting their own interests before their country's interests. If it is an individual or a whole group you attack them. Aneurin Bevan called the Tory Party 'lower than vermin' and the Tories has said harsh things about Labour. When before the last war the international Jewish community, with few exceptions, agitated for war with Germany, Mosley was right to attack them for putting their own interests before those of the country in which they resided. One recalls the headlines of the Daily Express in March 1933, when Hitler had only been in power several weeks: 'Judea Declares War on Germany. Jews of all the World Unite. Boycott of German goods'. The text continued: 'The whole of Israel throughout the World is uniting to de-

Turn to page 8

READERS of **COMRADE** may have had their interest aroused as mine was, by the story of **OLIVE HAWKS** and her remarkable novel about East London in the 1930s, **What Hope for Green Street**, published 50-odd years ago. (Comrade 49 and 50)

Long out of print and not easy to come by, I was fortunately able to borrow it and before I had read several pages I realised that she was an exceptionally gifted writer who knew East London and its people well and was able to describe it vividly and sympathetically.

Many writers have had a love affair with London and its river. From Edmund Spenser to Dickens to T.S. Elliot, to name just a few. Elliot's **Waste Land** is perhaps the greatest poem of 20th Century, full of nostalgia for the Thames....

The river sweats
Oil and Tar
The barges

With the turning tide
And the resonance of the
familiar place names -
Greenwich Reach and the
Isle of Dogs.

I feel it not out of place to mention **Olive Hawks** in this context, along with those distinguished writers because her understanding of the place and people resulted in the production of a little masterpiece of its genre.

For the start, she takes us straight into Green Street. Into the home of the Smith family, whose eldest daughter, Millie, is getting married to her boss, the manager of the laundry where she works.

Later it becomes clear she has bought comfort and security at the expense of happiness. Her sisters deal with challenges of work, sex and marriage in their various ways. As do her brothers, one tempted into crime, the other embracing an idealism which conflicts with his conscience and forces him to a less well paid job.

Towering over the lives of ordinary people in the 1930s were the twin spectres of unemployment and lack of available contraception, the latter even a blight on legitimate relationships, where another pregnancy meant another mouth to feed when there was not enough to go round. Those who remember

Return to Green Street and a Tribute to Olive Hawks

those times will know this is no exaggeration. The book is however not all gloom and doom despite its realism, and their are hilarious moments, such as the Smith family's deliberate over acting to shock two well-heeled visitors who expect the worst of Green Street.

The author succeeds in getting right inside her characters, male and female, and the head of family thoroughly believable. "Farver works at Smithfield" which at least ensures the family gets a good joint on Sundays. In a touching soliloquy he

rambles on about the trenches in World War I and longing to be back in Green Street, where there was a pint of bitter and the armchair 'e knew. Good old East London, jellied eels and trams and a place of dinner at home. Just as the book opens with the family together at a wedding, so it ends with family united by 'Farvers' funeral. These were the real East Enders, not those of a TV series.

When out of curiosity, I went in search of Green Street, I did not expect that which the author would have known. My worst



Olive Hawks

fears were realised as I walked its entire length without seeing a single face or a single shop which was not Asian. Near the bottom near the market and Upton Park Station I did see the first white face however, and was able to identify things mentioned in the book: the Gospel Hall where the Smith children attended Sunday School and the houses that opened onto the street, without front garden or wall. But the soul of Green Street was gone.

The 'Boleyn Tavern' at the junction of Barking Road reminds one of the unfortunate woman living in 'Green Street House' from which she was taken for execution. The Castle (as it was) is now buried under West Ham football pitch. The Boleyn Cinema in the Barking Road only shows (you've guessed it) Asian films.

But let me give the last word to Bill Smith of Green Street, shop assistant and supporter of Imperial Socialism.

He vowed that for the rest of his life he would work steadily to bring awakening to the people of the district. The human truth and fairness of what he was preaching must in the end prevail against the vast tyranny of usurious money power. Controlling the press through advertisements, the films, and voices and ideas on radio which could not act for the people as they were an instrument of finance.

The author describes Charlie Smith's imprisonment with great understanding.

When she wrote the book she was herself a prisoner - for four years without charge or trial.

BILL HARRIS.

AS IT WAS

GREEN STREET Bethnal Green was the heartland of British Union in the late 1930s. In it was situated N/W Bethnal Green Branch HQ and the area reverberated with passionate support. Poor, deprived and forgotten by the political parties who settled for their plight as a fact of life, the people nevertheless, amazingly, retained their pure sense of Britishness, and Mosley gave them hope. A sense of 'Merry England' dominated Bethnal Green, Shoreditch and Limehouse. The last war brought it to an end with its people largely dispersed, the area later populated by those of a different breed. But the Green Street spirit lingers on and can still be sensed in the air by those looking for it. Which includes not our political correct establishment.

They disregard it at peril for it is an essential for Britain's survival in the violent World which now exists.

JC

DAYS OF HOPE



'BLACKSHIRT' songs in Saturday night out in local pub: Bethnal Green's District Leader **MICK CLARKE** in flag bedecked side street in 1937 Coronation celebrations, and **CLEMENT BRUNING** at opening of his 'caff' facing BU's HQ in Green Street in 1938. Mick was to spend the War in a British Concentration Camp, Bruning to die in a German Concentration Camp.



3 EAST LONDON BLACKSHIRT

the interest and culture of the British way of life.

Towards the end of his active political life, Mosley was denied the right to speak in halls or even street corners. His argument was stronger than theirs.

When Mosley is criticised I always say: 'How many of today's politicians would sacrifice what he did for his beliefs? He was shot at in Hull, hit with a brick in Liverpool, assaulted in Brighton, Hackney and Manchester, and unjustly imprisoned for years without a charge brought against him.'

But he never wavered in his ideals, for he was incorruptible.

6 Review of Reviews

ciare an economic and financial war on Germany.'

One reviewer must have realised how silly he was that he wrote a further article in *The Spectator* rambling on and concluding that Diana Mosley was 'guilty'. Of what? Nothing it would seem except having an opinion that the 'right wing' *Peregrine Worsthorne* does not agree, or the media which pays him for his occasional article does not agree. Or maybe in his old age he has lost his marbles.

Diana Mosley in a long life has never harmed anyone, never incited anyone. Can all those reviewers say that of themselves?

One thing for sure. The real story of Oswald and Diana Mosley has still to be told. Perhaps a later generation, untainted by the political correctness of today will acknowledge the quality of their union and their place in the long story of British and European renaissance.

JOHN GEURD

You can play your part, keep 'Mosley' books in circulation. By asking your local Public Library to obtain books for you. It does not cost anything to join your local Library and they will obtain books on application. Books to ask for:

My Life Oswald Mosley Nelson
Action Replay J. Houn H. Baker
(ISBN 07030 0248 1)
Revolution by Reason Mellen
(ISBN 0 7734 8429 9)
Blackshirts and Roses Brockingday
(ISBN 0 9515523 01)

GEORGE WILLIAM LOFTUS TOTTENHAM



Belatedly we report that George Tottenham, another former British Union 'Division One' member, passed away in March 1st 1998 at his castle in Ulster. George, the grandson of an Irish Bishop, joined the Movement in 1934 in Kingston Upon Thames where he was active as a Unit Leader. He was present on Sunday October 4th 1936 at the Battle of Cable Street and in a TV documentary on this event a couple of years ago could clearly be seen in cine newsreel from the time marching with the column.

Later that afternoon, after the march was cancelled on police instructions, George took part in an impromptu demonstration through the streets of Kingston

WE NEVER FORGET

In memoriam

"THEIR NAME LIVETH FOR EVERMORE"
RAY - BROCKING. - Kenneth G. 20, and
GEORGE T. 22. The First Casualties:
RAF 9 Sqdn. and British Union:
Volunteer Air Gunners killed in action
Wellington L4275 Kell Canal September
4, 1939 Old comrades ever remember.
John Christlan.
Daily Telegraph September 4 2000

SINCE the last issue of COMRADE we have learned of the death of several old comrades. WE NEVER FORGET those who over

with other members from the Kingston, Richmond and Staines branches. This protest against the decision of the Police Commissioner of the Metropolis to ban the Blackshirt march through its East London heartlands was hastily organised by District Inspector Blay of the 1st London Area of British Union. Many local passers by joined in the march on hearing of the decision to capitulate to the forces of Red disorder.

During the Second World War, George Tottenham flew against Germany with the Royal Air Force and in 1946 returned to his native Ulster. We extend our deepest sympathy to George's widow, daughter-in-law and grandson.

WHAT THE PAPERS ARE SAYING ABOUT 'BLACKSHIRTS-ON-SEA'

- "A previously unseen collection of photographs...reveal the fun-loving side of Oswald Mosley's notorious Blackshirts" *The Sunday Times*
- "A new book explores the fascist fraternity that evolved during one of the most turbulent decades of the 20th Century" *Worthing Herald*
- "A strange mixture of sinister ideology and seaside fun" *Portsmouth News*
- "A chilling new book" *Chichester Observer*
- "A must for anyone interested in British social history" *Surrey Comet*
- "A bizarre archive which shows British fascists at play in camps of the summer coast...there were 300 supporters in Bognor Regis alone" *Brighton Argus*
- "Read about this fascinating and sometimes violent chapter in Sussex history" *Worthing Guardian*
- "Much fresh information has been revealed" *West Sussex County Times*

A pictorial record of the Blackshirt Summer camps in the 1930s with an account of those who attended, bringing to life those exciting times.

To obtain your copy send cheque or P.O., drawn to:
"BROCKINGDAY"
at Brockingday Publications
27 Old Gloucester Street
LONDON WC1N 3XX
E18 Post Free



OLD COMRADES



their lifetime adhered to Mosley's cause, and we publish their names, their fuller obituaries will be published in our next issue.

CLARKE, Douglas: Manchester Union Movement.

CRAVEN-JACKSON, 'Bill': Hull British Union.

DIMOND, Mrs Emily: London British Union and Essex Union Movement.

FENN, Len: London British Union and UM.

HAWKE, Frank: London British Union and UM.

IBBERSEN, Jack: London British Union and Union Movement.

PRATTEN, Mrs I: widow of George Pratten, London British Union.

SEWELL, Father Brocard: long time supporter and friend of Lady Mosley.

SLOANE, Rosetta, wife of McNeil Sloane, early British Union, Australia.

WINN, Mary: Surrey. British Union & Union Movement.

MY LIFE by OSWALD MOSLEY
An insight into politics of the first half of the 20th Century. An ideal present for any student.
Hardback £15.
Paperback £5.
POST free from FOM, 101 Orwell Court LONDON E8 4PP

MERRY CHRISTMAS to all our readers

THE PUBLISHER and editor apologises for the absence of COMRADE in recent times, for reason which old comrades understand. He also regrets he will not be sending Christmas Cards this year.

It is hoped that with 2001, as with the words of British Union's Jorian Jenk's booklet: 'Spring Comes Again!'

Published for Friends of O.M.
by John Christian
101, Orwell Court,
Pownall Road, London, E8 4PP

COMRADE

Incorporating ACTION and UNION

Newsletter of Friends of OM



'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'

No.54

ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

OCTOBER 1ST 2002

'Neither to our friends not to the country do we make any promises; not without struggle and ordeal will the future be won. Those who march with us will certainly face abuse, misunderstanding, bitter animosity, and possibly the ferocity of struggle and of danger. In return, we can only offer to them the deep belief that they are fighting that a great land may live'

Oswald Mosley, The Greater Britain

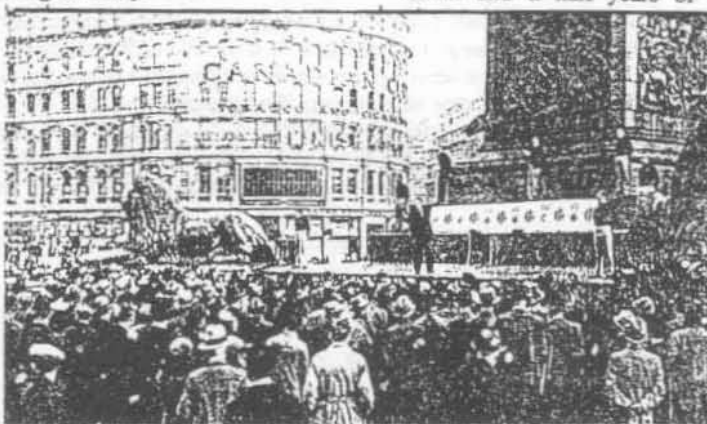
DARING TO BE GREAT

In hoisting the party flag over its George Street headquarters on October 3rd 1932, Sir Oswald Mosley signalled the founding of the British Union of Fascists. The time was more than ready for a new political force to challenge the old parties who had lead this country into the worst slump in living memory.

In addition, Communist agitators who stood for subjugating this country to Soviet Russia increasingly dominated the streets of many industrial cities. Mosley had first-hand experience of this, when in October 1931 a meeting of 15,000 people in the Rag Market, Birmingham was wrecked by a Red minority. Denied free speech, it was a lesson Mosley took to heart, vowing never again to let a group of Red agitators take over his meetings. The ensuing struggle took two years but was victorious in quelling Red violence.

ANNIVERSARY

The founding of the B.U.F. seventy years ago was greeted with a storm of ridicule by complacent Conservatism and a torrent of hatred by the left. At the same time Mosley published his seminal work THE GREATER BRITAIN. An instant best seller, it laid out in intricate detail his policy

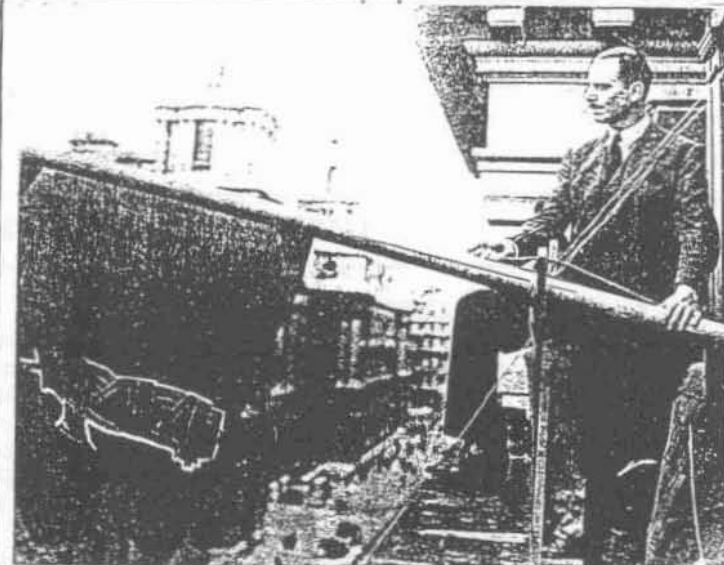


FIRST BRITISH UNION MEETING HELD IN TRAFALGAR SQUARE 1932

for the future wellbeing of this country. Adopting the slogan 'BRITAIN FIRST' Mosley challenged in a British way the follies of the old party betrayals and Communist destructiveness.

AN INSPIRATIONAL LOCATION

The choice of Trafalgar Square as a venue to hold the first meeting of the B.U.F. was a symbolic gesture towards the greatness of Britain's past. On Saturday



OSWALD MOSLEY RAISES THE FLAG OVER THE BRITISH UNION HEADQUARTERS, OCTOBER 3RD 1932

October 15th 1932, Mosley spoke to an audience of thousands. It was the start of seven and a half years of

enormous struggle that only came to an end with his arrest-together with hundreds of his followers-without charge or trial under the infamous regulation 18B.

Today, seventy years on, we salute a man who over a lifetime of sacrifice has left us with enduring policy for a united Europe. We who follow will never betray that trust. His ideal lives on and will become reality.

F.O.M.
A S
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SEE PAGE 2

WHEN LIES ARE
NAILED BY FACTS
PAGE 5

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CONTRASTS PAGE 13

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BLACKSHIRTS IN
LATVIA? PAGES 14-15

F.O.M. MISSION STATEMENT

Founded in 1982, the purpose of FRIENDS OF MOSLEY was to bind together all those who through the years had supported Mosley in his long march for the soul of Great Britain. This initially took the form of dinners and socials held all over the country. These events were often attended by Lady Mosley. In 1986 the newsletter COMRADE was launched. Under the professional editorship of John Christian, this initial single sheet of A4 has grown in over 50 editions to be the authoritative voice of the life and works of Sir Oswald Mosley. It may comment on current issues but it is not and never will be involved in political campaigning. It fully endorses the Mosley doctrine of a United States of Europe. Not to be confused with the ultimate P.C. gravy trains of Brussels and Strasbourg. It is sent without subscription to all former Mosley supporters who request it, widening over the years to include Universities and Institutions around the world. In addition to historians, lecturers, postgraduates and bona fide researchers who recognise the worth of an authoritative source of information. Added to this a younger generation born too late to have any direct link but who are keen to know more about the Mosley story. F.O.M. has no formal membership. The mailing lists are never disclosed. It never seeks funding but exists on voluntary donations from those who are appreciative of the work. We simply exist to perpetuate that unique Mosleyite band of brotherhood that future generations of Europeans can grasp in order to build a noble society out of the struggle and sacrifice of Mosley's men.

THE SPIRIT LIVES ... THE REST WILL FOLLOW

OUR FRED BY JOHN CHRISTIAN

I well recall my first sight of FRED BAILEY. It was shortly after the birth of Union Movement in 1948. O.M. was to speak one evening at an LCC school in Bow, East London and I was chosen to drive him there. But on arrival to pick him up in west London he already knew from an 'Evening Standard' report and other sources that the Jewish 43 Group had entered and taken possession of the empty school. An unconfirmed late report suggested that the police had finally thrown out the demonstrators and our boys were in control but that area was seething with imported thugs. With that in our thoughts we set off, OM by my side, UM London Organiser in the back.

West End, City, Bethnal Green Road, past the old British Union HQ in Green Street to the junction of Roman and Old Grove Road where the traffic lights said Red and crowds filled pavements from which a man, soon identified, rushed to the car shouting 'You cannot get through. They are blocking the road to the school in strength'.

I quickly said to O.M., 'No problem. I will turn right, circle, and approach from the East' to which O.M. uttered just 'Drive straight on!' That to me was a problem. My old clapped out Riley of around 12 years of age, had not only half the rear floor missing but its engine had a habit of stalling at inconvenient moments. But it was otherwise heavy and tough and the lights said Green so foot down and we were off - straight ahead!

Our informant had made no mistake. 50 yards or so on the road was blocked by a seething crowd whose antics suggested they were no friends of Mosley. So again down went the foot and with screeching horn I drove straight at them and miraculously the 50 foot deep would be commandoes capable of extreme violence when in large numbers quickly parted and we burst through.

Almost immediately there was the school on the left and had a quick sight of a crowd of our boys behind the school gate and this time with foot hard down on break and a quick swing off the road towards it anticipating quickly we would be crashing through the barrier. Except, at the last moment there was Tommy Moran, at his side our young Freddy who swung open that gate in time. We slithered forward and halted just before the school building. I cannot recall the meeting but like all OMs, would have been a good one, he speaking to a massed audience.

In the years that followed Freddy and I have done much together and become firm friends outside politics. He was also loved by my late wife who was ever amused by, when appropriate, his Cockneyism. Her favourite, his reply to a rude adversary, 'Go whistle up your kilt!' He was a prime example of that special breed of working men who once populated East London when England still was England and who despite incredible hardship remained of good cheer and a patriotism second to none. Like they in the words of a contemporary born into an easier clime but matured in the facts of life, 'The Salt of the Earth'.

Freddy was the main instigator of the birth of Friends of O.M. after the death of O.M. In the years that followed he has been my right arm in the part I have played. I shall miss him terribly.

THE VAN THAT BEAT THE BAN



EAST LONDON BIDS FAREWELL TO 'BATTLING' FRED BAILEY



FRED AS A L.C.C. CANDIDATE

It is with deep regret that Friends of Mosley announce the death of Fred Bailey: one of the well-known 'Battling Bailey Brothers' of Bethnal Green and a leading post-War activist for Mosley in East London.

Fred was a foundation member of Union Movement and together with his equally famous brother Sid, was always to be found at Mosley's side at all the major Leader meetings and marches after the war.

The Bailey brothers came from a large Blackshirt family. Fred's father was Jack Bailey who in his early days was closely associated with the National Unemployed Workers Movement. He was also the first notable member of the Labour Party in East London to declare for Mosley and British Union - having realised sooner than most that Labour Party leaders would always put the money power of the City of London before the working class people of the East End.

Jack had five sons and four daughters and Fred took immense pride in the fact that three of his brothers and one of his sisters became card carrying members of the Movement.

Although too young to be a member of the British Union (he was just 15 when war was declared) Fred actively participated in street meetings in the inter-war period with his father and brother Sid. It was at the countless corner meetings and major rallies that Fred's political education began.



FRED EN-ROUTE TO PARIS FOR A F.O.M. LUNCH IN HONOUR OF LADY MOSLEY'S NINETIETH BIRTHDAY

After the war, Fred was one of that brave band of Mosleyite street-fighters who held the streets against communism in East London despite being repeatedly and viciously attacked. When Union Movement was formed, Fred Bailey was appointed by Mosley as the Branch Leader for Bethnal Green. He was active in exposing corruption in local government and worked tirelessly in many local election campaigns: culminating in the UM candidate winning over 40% of the vote in Moorfields election of 1953. Shortly after this he became the London Organiser for Union Movement.



MOSLEY AND FRED WALKING ACROSS TRAFLAGAR SQUARE



FRED ON THE MARCH PASSING THE CENOTAPH IN WHITEHALL



FRED IN CONVERSATION WITH LADY MOSLEY

In later life Fred helped to set up Friends of Mosley, of which he was a Council member, and organised the well-attended and highly successful dinners for many years.

Besides his fearless bravery in standing up to the enemies of Britain, and despite being denied the opportunity for higher education, Fred Bailey was an accomplished debater, an original thinker and a capable writer - thus earning Mosley's highest accolade of 'Thought-Deed Man'.

For his service to Union Movement, Fred Bailey was deservedly awarded the Distinction Medal by the Leader. One story Fred's friends will always remember concerns the occasion when Fred was carrying out building repairs to a local school. This involved laying an area of flat concrete and the operation had been plagued by minor acts of vandalism.

Fred was putting the last touches to smoothing the surface when along came the school's Jack the Lad who stood, hands in pockets, surveying Fred's handy work. The Lad then planted his large foot in the still wet concrete and smiled defiantly at Fred. But he had chosen the wrong man. Without hesitation, Fred locked the Lad's arm in a half-Nelson and forced his head down to the floor. Finally he pushed his nose and cheeks deep into the unset mixture exclaiming: "Don't just put your foot in it! Put your face in it!" No further acts of vandalism followed.

Perhaps Fred would have made an excellent Minister of Education in a Mosley Government.

The Friends of Mosley sends its deepest sympathy to Fred's wife, Dolly; their son and daughter; and brother Sid.

MOSLEY'S KHAKI ELECTION

By Gregory Maitland



LIEUTENANT MOSLEY

In 1918, Lieutenant Mosley, invalided out of active service, decided to test himself as a prospective parliamentary candidate. Choosing a political arena away from readily available seats around his ancestral home in Staffordshire. He determined to seek nomination in the newly formed constituency of Harrow. In his speech to the forty three strong selection committee of the Conservative and Unionist Association he said "I prefer to come as a stranger and win what laurels I can, simply on my own personal merits and for the political truths I hold dear. We have suffered appalling losses and the cost has been heavy". He especially prided himself on being able to represent the soldiers who had fought and been broken in this terrible war. "I am a believer in the destiny of the Anglo-Saxon race. I am convinced that the country as a whole will prove true as ever to the principles of British grit and honour".

THE WINNER BY FAR

On Friday July 19th 1918 against three other nominees Mosley was endorsed by 95% of delegates as the official Unionist candidate. He faced one rival for election. Sixty five year old A.R. Chamberlayne, a lawyer who stood as an independent Non-Party candidate. Inevitably the question of his youthfulness came to the fore. Mosley replied "That criticism has greatly relieved my mind for I feared that I was behind the timetable, for was not Pitt Prime Minister at twenty four?".

DOWN TO BUSINESS

With peace still four months away Mosley plunged into constituency life. At a meeting to introduce himself to voters he

said "It was a duty to perfect the machinery for transferring the men from military to civilian life so as to ensure that it brought with it no stress of unemployment". At an exhibition and sale of vegetables he remarked that no allotment must be taken for building purposes without compensation for the crops and labour invested in the land together with fresh land being made available. He wanted 100,000 houses built at once. That seems an impossible task but he was out to affirm that the man (Lloyd George) who got the shells could get them the houses. The education facilities of this country were miserably inadequate. The path must lead straight from the cottage of the humblest worker through the public schools to the universities. The most appalling statistics had come to light showing the poor physique of the nation. They had to set up a Ministry of Health which would co-ordinate all those various authorities which today were dealing with matters of health. He appealed to newly enfranchised women. "If the children they had left behind in the cradle could look into the future they would beg and pray for them to go to the polls". In a



MOSLEY NEVER FORGOT THE DEBT OWED TO FELLOW SERVICEMEN

short address during the interval of a fund raising concert organised for sending parcels to the troops he said "If I ever get into parliament I will not stop making a noise till the soldiers have their dues. They have to see homes are healthy, that their children are educated and to make good in life". A

few days later the general

election was called for Saturday December 14th with the declaration of the poll Saturday December 28th.

RADICAL POLICIES

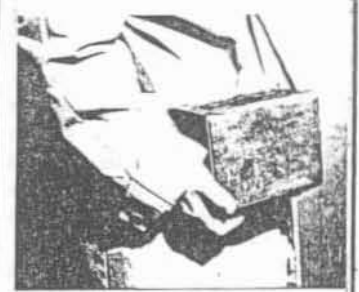
At a series of indoor and outdoor meetings Mosley advocated nationalisation of the railways, giving workers their full share in the profits of industry. He supported the regulation and supply of better and purer milk. The question of youth was raised yet again. His riposte. "Old enough for Flanders, Old enough for Westminster" He polled 13,959 votes a 10,952 majority over his rival.

DOWN TO WORK

In his maiden speech in the House of Commons on February 17th 1919 'the baby of the house' said "The wartime epidemic of bureaucratic control has had the nation in its grip. We stand in grave danger of its paralysing influence being extended to embrace this youngest child of the British public, our newly formed Air Force. The peculiar genius of our race has always manifested itself in strange new enterprise surmounting every obstacle thrown in its path. I look to the Government for protection and inspiration rather than restriction". At this point it was reported that applause was heard from the Strangers Gallery.

DEFIANCE

A man on a bicycle carrying his obligatory gas mask in its square box. A sight that could be repeated hundreds of times a day in wartime Britain. But this was no ordinary gas mask case. Its owner had been an active member of the British Union and for some reason had never been arrested. With his leader and a number of friends in jail he reasoned that a small act of defiance was called for. While keeping the outside of his gas mask case looking normal he hinged the side to accommodate a number of large rubber stamp slogans. To replenish the rubber stamp he built an ink pad into the top. No flat surface was safe. Many a lamp post, pillar box, bus, train, and even the entrance to a police station acquired the political graffiti. The man was never caught. His basic but effective wartime printing machine serves testimony to the British spirit of independent thought and action to protest about a gross wrong.



RELEASE
MOSLEY
NOW

EVERYONES FAVOURITE CANDIDATE

In a post election analysis it was found that the oldest voter 102 year old Miss Wotton had supported the youngest M.P. His equally supportive mother Lady Maud was "His happy inspiration and encourager of his political ambition". A roll she continued to perform up to her death in 1948.

SEE HOW THEY WRIGGLE ...

WHEN LIES ARE NAILED BY FACTS

By Peter Kennedy

The opponent or sceptic who turned up to a Mosley meeting to boo and stayed to cheer is a familiar feature in the Mosley story.

But at an Oxford Union debate in 1961, this hardy angle took a notable turn when a particular undergraduate sat down in the crowded chamber to hear a debate between Oswald Mosley and Jeremy Thorpe, the rising star turn of the Liberal Party.

The young spectator was Robert Skidelsky, and what started out as an excursion of the curious developed first into respect and admiration followed by a close study of Mosley's life and times, culminating in 1975 with Skidelsky's biography "Oswald Mosley."

FACTS, FACTS, FACTS

Of all the books and articles written about Oswald Mosley, this was and remains the seminal work. Here was a landmark publication that was illuminating, objective and supported by diligent research. In the making of it Skidelsky had turned up statistics and contemporary reports that put the subject into a fresh, indeed startlingly novel focus. It was material long available to any researcher but without exception passed by or ignored by tendentious or lazy "historians" and journalists.

OUT OF ESTABLISHMENT STEP

After Skidelsky, many of the chestnuts thrown at Mosley and his movement were no more sustainable that post-Newtonian ignorance of the law of gravitation. But while nobody argues that an apple might chance to levitate in defiance of a natural law, the inclination of most commentators on Mosley and his movement is to ignore the revealed facts and stick to the old, familiar abuse. And in this case abuse of the biographer can run a close second to that of his subject.

Here are two examples. In a passing swipe in the columns of the Spectator magazine last year, Vernon Bogodor, a court historian and contributor to the Daily Telegraph, described Skidelsky's Mosley biography as "hagiography." Now hagiography is what you get when for example Martin Gilbert and Roy Jenkins are let loose on Winston Churchill. Typically it is a mixture of obsequious stage management, gloss, whitewash and the wilful ignoring or suppression of uncomfortable



ROBERT SKIDELSKY WITH LADY MOSLEY AT ORSAY

reality. It is the airbrushing of details that not only do not fit into the pre-arranged composition, but would positively throw it off balance.

THE TRUTH AT LAST

There is nothing remotely like this in Skidelsky's brilliant work. He addresses everything, produces the available evidence, considers it through an 360 degree analysis, and makes his conclusions or argues that there is a case to be made for an alternative as distinct from the received or conventional view. But clearly for Bogodor anything that deviates from, let alone confronts the managed verdict on Mosley and his movement, is "hagiography." Enter the inconvenient detail that the court statistics show for example that Blackshirts were far more often the victims than the perpetrators of violence, and Skidelsky is denounced. For Bogodor, as was said of Thomas Huxley, tragedy, or in this case hagiography, is a theory confounded by a fact. For a tour de force in tendentiousness and applied disregard for revealed truth, we might turn to an essay included in "Cruel Britannia", and first published in the Observer and Jewish Quarterly, in which the journalist Nick Cohen warns to the task.

AN EMBARRASSMENT OF TRUTHS

Cohen had been much exercised by the Maurice Gran and Lawrence Marks television docudrama on Mosley that went out in early 1996. He seems to have a number of hang ups. Mocking Michael Foot for example, for greeting Mosley warmly at a London restaurant. The fact is that Michael Foot is one of the truly nicest men to have been in politics, and here was an example

or courage and charming manners doubtless alien to Cohen's understanding.

Cohen's distortions are too numerous to answer in one short article, but here are two examples of his technique.

THE OLD CANARD

Mosley "terrorised the old Jewish East End" and "wanted to send socialists, Jews and trade unionists to concentration camps." To put it mildly, this is a monstrous deceit and fabrication. Neither in speech nor writing did Mosley speak of concentration camps, though he and 800 supporters were to experience them at first hand. And Cohen must know that a great many of his supporters (not least in East London) were trade unionists.

As to "terrorising" Jews, this old canard throws up an issue that Robert Skidelsky examined in meticulous detail in his chapter "The Campaign in East London." Here is one of his findings. "In his survey of East London 'terror' in November 1936, the Evening Standard's Dudley Barker reports that 'most of the backstreet assaults have been directed AGAINST Blackshirts.'"

"Moreover," continued Skidelsky, "there is no doubt that some local Jewish communists were more violent than anything produced by the East London or any other branch of British fascism."

Sentencing Barnett Becow yet again, this time for an assault on the police, the Magistrate at the Old Street Police Court remarked, "He is a man trading in violence and is more likely to lead to the destruction of the Jewish community in the East End than the Fascists are."

CANARD ON CANARD

Here is another Cohen-ism: "black-bashing Union Movement" ... and Mosley in 1958 "went straight to Kensington to incite murderous race riots." Mosley in fact campaigned on the slogan "Votes Not Violence", and on this issue Skidelsky quotes The Times of September 8 1958, which reported that "although the riots appear to be to the advantage of the (Union) movement, there is no evidence that the party are the cause of them ... Their propaganda ... is directed towards diverting racial hatred to anti-government feeling rather than inciting violence."

Cohen is presumably acquainted with all the above - and more - since he goes to some length to abuse Skidelsky, while all the while ignoring the-for him, - unsettling reality of the biographical evidence.

"Oswald Mosley" was the first and benchmark work of revisionism, a field which "Comrade" has done so much to extend. Skidelsky of course will never be forgiven for exposing the racket of deceit and manipulation which continues without shame or honour.

AND YET MORE

Here is a sample from the time of the Gran/Marks television series. A letter to the Daily Mail referred to the meeting at which Mosley had been knocked unconscious by a flying stone. This was followed by another from a reader who claimed to have been present, and that the crowd had been incensed by the shocking spectacle of Mosley and many of his supporters in uniform.

In fact this open air meeting at Liverpool in 1937 was staged after the banning of the uniform, and numerous pictures of the event show Mosley first speaking, and then falling on to the roof of the loudspeaker van, dressed in a grey suit. But what does the truth matter when the lie serves The Purpose? As Orwell - who Cohen only half quotes from a passage on a Mosley meeting in the Yorkshire coalfield - observed, he who controls the present controls the past. And he who controls the past controls the future.

Postscript on Nick Cohen.

In a recent letter on David Irving's website, Rixon Stewart wrote of the response he received from Cohen after sending the bouncy journo a courteous letter, critical of a Cohen piece on Irving, and supporting the persecuted historian.

Cohen's reply was "F...ing off and dying remain an option you should consider."

To which Irving added "Thanks for showing me that. Nick Cohen has sent an identical reply to everyone who wrote to him: several have contacted me."

Nice knowing you, Mr Cohen.

Oswald Mosley by Robert Skidelsky.

ISBN 186013824

Available on audio cassette, Sussex Publications Ltd. £12.

EUPHORION

"THE MOSLEYS' " PUBLISHING HOUSE BORN OUT OF NECESSITY

By Adrian Pearce

The immediate post-war years were very hard for the victorious British. Meat, cheese, butter and bacon rations were further reduced in 1946. The Nation was urged to eat the 'Healthy Option', whale meat, Woolton pie, snook and horse flesh. Even bread rationing was introduced for the first time in July 1946 and continued for the next two years.

One lesser known area of strict rationing was printing paper. Despite Government harassment, Mosley, in the same year had been able to publish MY ANSWER his riposte for years of needless imprisonment. A year later his next book THE ALTERNATIVE was ready for printing but had been refused a paper allocation by the Board of Trade. WITHOUT DOUBT AN OVERT POLITICAL ACT INTENDED TO SUPPRESS HIS NEW THINKING OF BRINGING TOGETHER PAST Warring Nations INTO A UNION OF EUROPE. At this point it was discovered that a loophole existed in the wall of intransigence. Paper could be released for republishing long out of print classic books. Acknowledged authors such as Dryden, Thackeray, Balzac and Goethe qualified. So why not Mosley's THE ALTERNATIVE. A way through Board of Trade petty obduracy had been found. If not a classic at the time it was destined to become one! It stands today as a bench mark of mature thinking of a question that still exercises the minds of politicians and public alike.



DIANA MOSLEY TOOK A 'HANDS ON' INTEREST IN THE PUBLISHING HOUSE

A LEARNING OPPORTUNITY

When Mosley was imprisoned without charge or trial in May 1940, he saw it as an opportunity to use the time to read and learn. He never wasted a moment. He read for at least six hours every day. Within eighteen months he had mastered the German language. This first tutor was a coloured musician caught up in Churchill's dictat 'Collar the Lot'. Mosley's industrious scholarship unlocked for him the philosophy of Nietzsche, Schiller's plays, the poetry of Holderlin, all to be enjoyed and better understood in the original language and most importantly Goethe and his master work FAUST. Mosley became obsessed by the dark and brooding story, learning hundreds of lines by heart.

Faust

1 and 2

Goethe

TRANSLATED BY BAYARD TAYLOR

EUPHORIONS FIRST PUBLISHED BOOK

EUPHORION IS BORN

The New publishing house, founded to ease petty restrictions established an office in Vauxhall Bridge Road, London. It was named EUPHORION after the son of Faust and Helen therefore representing European culture, the Classic and the Gothic. The Mosleys' good and loyal friend John Betjeman strongly advised them that such a venture could stand or fall on the choice of an authoritative type face. Times Roman was chosen. In the



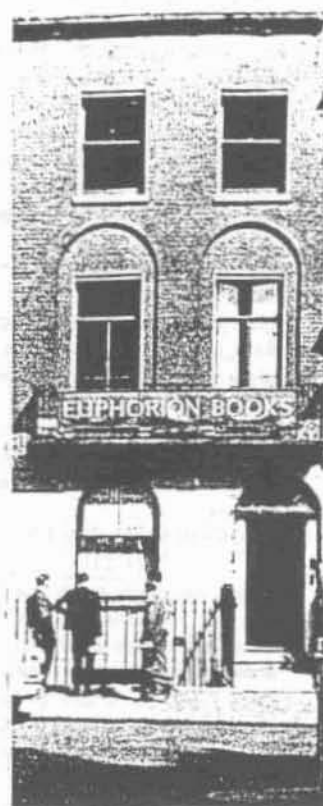
bicentenary year of Goethe's birth FAUST was the natural choice to launch the fledgling publishing house. In an unsigned preface to the book, Mosley set out his inner thoughts on the greatest of Goethe's writings. Commenting half a century later, Diana Mosley while still having reservations on Bayard Taylor's translation considers her husbands preface as important today as when it was written*.



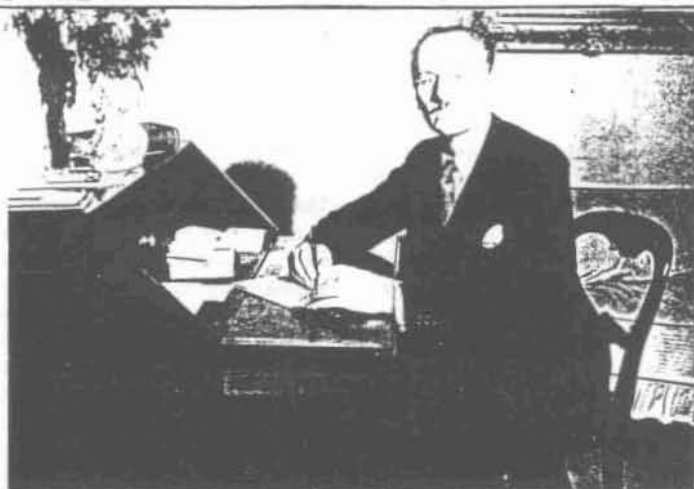
EUPHORION BOOK COVERS WERE ALWAYS WELL DESIGNED

A FEAST OF GOOD READING

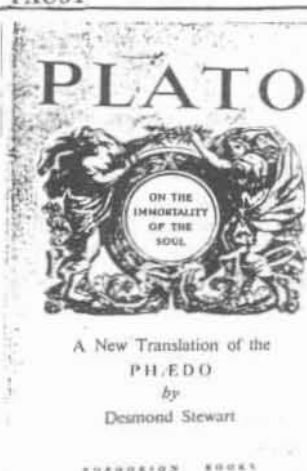
A stand was secured at the 1949 Grosvenor House Book Fair, it was a popular success. Amongst other books on offer were VIRGIL'S GEORGICS with text in Latin, and a new translation of Plato's Phaedo by Desmond Stewart. A selection of AESOPS FABLES. Diana Mosley translated Balzac's THE DUCHESSE DE LANGEAIS. Offered in a deluxe edition were Webster's immortal tragedies THE WHITE DEVIL and THE DUCHESS OF MALFI with illustrations by Adrian Daintrey. Due to the continuing shortage of paper small print runs helped keep overall costs down. In 1950 Diana Mosley published another Balzac classic THE VICAR OF TOURS and PIERRE GRASSOU her sister Nancy Mitford translated Madame de Lafayette's THE PRINCESSE DE CLEVES. Beyond the regeneration of past classics the Mosleys encouraged new writers.



THE SUPERBLY LOCATED CENTRAL LONDON OFFICES OF EUPHORION BOOKS



SIR OSWALD MOSLEY WRITING HIS PREFACE FOR FAUST



REPRINTS OF CLASSICS WERE WELL RECEIVED

Desmond Stewart (who translated the Phaedo) had in 1951 his new novel **LEOPARD IN THE GRASS** published to great acclaim both here and later in the United States. This was soon followed by **THE MEMOIRS OF ALCIBIADES**. Hester Thackeray Fuller and Violet Hammersley wrote reminiscences of Anne Thackeray in **THACKERAY'S DAUGHTER**.

REALITIES OF THE CONFLICT

By late 1951 paper restrictions had been eased which allowed a wider brief to be entertained. **GERMAN DIARY** by Sven Hedin. The famous Swedish explorer's account of his visits to Germany before and during the war and his conversations with Hitler was published. Hans Grimm's **ANSWER OF A GERMAN** asked the important question "What are reasonable Germans thinking?" He was exceptionally well qualified to act as a mouthpiece for his countrymen. Poet, Philosopher and author of **VOLK OHNE RAUM** he had always held himself aloof from politics and had never joined any political party.



EUPHORION GAVE A CHANCE TO UNPUBLISHED NOVELISTS BRAVERY

In June 1952 the real breakthrough occurred. A book that could not find a publisher in Germany was taken up by Euphorion and immediately became a best seller. With a forward by British air ace Douglas Bader it ran to six editions in just three years. **STUKA PILOT** by Hans Ulrich Rudel, the most decorated pilot in the German Luftwaffe, told the story of 2530 operational sorties over the Eastern front. Destroying 500 Russian tanks and even a battleship.

The story of Rudel, his friendship with the Mosleys, eventual banning from this country and continued harassment by the British authorities together with the reasons why Euphorion was wound down is told in the next issue of **COMRADE**.

**The Euphorion edition of Faust is long out of print but readers can obtain a photocopy of Sir Oswald Mosley's preface to the book by sending a cheque in favour of F.O.M. or equivalent in postage stamps for £1.00 (no coins please) to BCM/F.O.M., London, WC1N 3XX.*

ARE ALL THESE CLAIMS FOR DAMAGES JUSTIFIED

By Sid Bailey

Why has there been such a rush of advertisements for the public to make claims for injuries? It would seem a 'get rich quick' racket is about, copying what happens in the United States of America. How did this opportunity suddenly become available? With the cost of Legal Aid soaring, the Labour Government withdrew the provision of Legal Aid to injury victims. Enter the lawyer.

Why did the Legal Aid budget rocket away? The passing of so-called anti-discrimination legislation led to an explosion of claims. Professional 'do-gooders' jumped at the chance to attack the normal process of life that had been established in Britain for centuries. It was reported last year that three lawyers drew a million pounds in one year, and there were lots more trailing not very far behind.

GENUINE INJURY CLAIMS

Is it really necessary for such claims to have to go through an expensive legal system at all? Much more use could be made of informal tribunal hearings. It only has to establish that an injury was caused and that the claimant suffered hardship. It must establish that someone other than the claimant was responsible for the accident. Awards could be made to compensate for any incapacity, though in many cases a pension rather than a lump sum would be more beneficial to the injured person.

TRAUMATIC DISTRESS

Another group of claims that are prevalent are those for Traumatic Distress caused by being present at some distressing incident. These are very difficult to prove. It depends on the person's mind or the person's mental state. It seems strange that people in professions where they are likely to be involved in distressing incidents, such as police and firemen, should expect special payments to compensate. If medical conditions are involved, sick pay or pension provisions should suffice. Members of the armed forces have witnessed many horrible things over the years and have not been able to make any claims. Stress and trauma are just the current 'in' words that lawyers seek to

exploit. All such cases should be very carefully looked at.

DISCRIMINATION CASES

These cases seem to gobble up a lot of money allocated to Legal Aid. The Government has set up commissions and boards to see that the legislation on discrimination is complied with. Local authorities have appointed officials to do a similar job in each locality. Now it is just common sense that, if you appoint someone to make sure that all cases of discrimination are pursued, you can be sure those officials will find plenty of cases. If they did not they would soon be out of a job. In Britain we have always until now managed without this legislation. We are currently being told that we have always had immigrants in this country. Such immigrants have always prospered and they did not need special legislation. Those that obeyed the law never came to any harm. Today everybody except the ordinary people of this country are being told night and day that they are discriminated against. Then lawyers tell them they can claim large sums in compensation. We always have been able to choose who we like, who we want to live near, who we want to employ, who we want to promote. Freedom means choice, we usually choose the best person for the task in hand, anything else is self-defeating. In sex discrimination cases the same thing applies. In most cases where people make claims it is to hide their own inadequacy, for an employer he would be a fool if he did not employ the most suitable person.

HUMAN RIGHTS CLAIMS

This is another growth industry. Some lawyers see this legislation as the biggest 'gravy train' of all. One group of well known lawyers have even formed a special company to take these cases.

We should not follow the path of the United States of America and allow massive handouts of funds from the money intended for the Public Services. In the end it is the ordinary people of this country who pay through increased taxes or insurance premiums.

LOYALTY EXEMPLIFIED

Sir Oswald Mosley – Leader and Companion



by Ronald Creasy

Although in a favoured position, from an early age I became aware of the inconsistency and inequalities degrading to mankind. Automatically I became attracted to such societies as the English Array and English Mystery with their new ideas an philosophy but gradually it became apparent that they were self-centred and without the courage of essential action which would expose them to the rigours of the outside world. It was natural that in the early days Mosley's struggle against increasing political corruption attracted my attention, altering essential interest. His policy was clearly advanced in the right direction. There was a resonant cry from the people which disturbed me deeply, creating an immediate resolution that I would do in my power to assist the

cause being led by the supreme calibre of Mosley.

SEEING THE LIGHT

British Union literature had been sent to me resulting in my wife and I becoming close friends of Eric Sherston and his mother. Eric Sherston was then District Leader for the Woodbridge Division. His mother, a widow, supported him to the hilt, providing a powerful car fitted with a roof platform and full speaking equipment. At that time I asked Sherston to arrange an appointment for me to be introduced to Mosley in London. Sherston and I drove to London parking outside Mosley's office conveniently close to Westminster. We were ushered in by Raven Thomson. Mosley was sitting at a solid table placed on a flash and circle floor. He spoke briefly to Sherston before being introduced to me. His hand held out for a warm handshake and he followed up with some brief formal words and answers to a letter I had written him. My immediate impression was of a powerful and far-seeing mind, resolute closely aware of his ability to meet the highest on even terms or those less endowed with comforting ease. How well this mixture served him in dealing with any raucous opponent. Mosley asked me a simple question. What did I think of his policy for a better Britain? I

replied "Sir Oswald Mosley it is part of my own heart, the sooner it is implemented the better. Perhaps you will advise that I become District Leader for the Eye Parliamentary Division. I am prepared to give my all in the struggle ahead". We left the office with Raven Thomson as his guest at a nearby café for light refreshment with no break in the flow of conversation.

LOYALTY

In the years to follow opportunity for conversation with Mosley often arose and our conversation would often turn to past philosophers such as Descartes, Dr Johnson, Spengler, Socrates and Voltaire. We disagreed on Spengler's rather pessimistic outlook, which I felt could at least be a rational warning. If his prognostications had been heeded following events might have been very different.

It is good to go back to those early years. With unfailing energy Sherston and I would hold three or four meetings an evening with the help of our loud speaking equipment, dashing from one village to another, from town to town, including Diss, Ipswich and Norwich. My extremely reliable supporters never tired of painting river walls, towers and roadways with signs and slogans until the whole area resounded with the name Mosley and the decorative flash and circle as the symbol of the times.

With gratitude I think of the many loyal supporters who gave unstintingly their time and endeavours. They were always there to protect against often imported communists.

ELECTION

The culmination was my election to the Eye Borough Council as a BUF supporter. Then Eye was honoured by Mosley speaking to a crowded meeting at the Town Hall where he and I received vociferous acclaim. Perhaps most memorable of all, Mosley had dined with my wife and I at our house and we had walked in the garden before the meeting where we discussed philosophical thoughts at great length. It made us five minutes late for the meeting which we became aware when we heard the Town Hall clock in the valley striking the hour. That blessed hour of destiny and prophecy.

Mosley moved on into living posterity. In his foresight the past, present and future will be established into the history of future generations born out of the dust of a fallen civilisation, which turned is back on sanity of progress in the machinations of the past century. When the decadence and political chicanery of this age has passed into limbo the spirit of the great leaders of the past rise again to build a lasting, regenerate civilisation free from the tentacles of Mammon.

A VISION SPLENDID



by Louise Irvine

This is not an erudite political dissertation, but the personal thoughts of someone involved in life in the 1930s. I cannot claim to have been a founder member. In 1935 I left college, and obtained my first elementary school teacher's post in Birmingham.

I soon discovered that unbelievably bad conditions existed. Back-to-back slum houses, low wages, unemployment, malnutrition. Worst of all there seemed to be no decisive effort to remedy these wrongs.

We needed a man of action, a man of vision. I read and accepted Oswald Mosley's revolutionary policies for Britain and the Empire as it was then, and became a member of the B.U.F. in 1936 in Birmingham. Mosley's name was still revered by many in the Black Country, in contrast to the stolid apathy of the old politicians. Mosley's dynamic proposals to make Britain 'a land fit for heroes' shone like a beacon.

POLICIES OF SENSE

Immediate road building schemes, slum clearance and new housing, treated with war time urgency, releasing finance to support the nation, a forward looking agricultural policy, so long neglected. In the 1930s Britain and Empire were part of our lives and Mosley believed in development of Empire for the development of all its peoples. In 1939 I was haunted by the thought that once again Europe would be torn by war. I unashamedly and honourably opposed a declaration of war while there was still a chance of

negotiated peace. There was nothing traitorous in my attitude.

FATEFUL PROMISE

For the past years Oswald Mosley had advocated a re-armament programme in readiness should Britain or the Empire be attacked, in which case we would fight to defend ourselves. The fateful promise Britain gave to Poland, which we were unable to fulfil, saw the end of peace in Europe and the world. In 1940 the pernicious Regulation 18b came into force, which saw the imprisonment, without charge or trial of Sir Oswald Mosley, and many members of B.U. including my husband and myself, a blot on British history, and 'in the highest degree odious'.

AFTERMATH

The end of the war found us in a completely changed world which we had known would always happen. Britain and the Empire diminished, communism spread throughout much of Europe. Poland under Russian domination

— where was our promise to the Poles in 1939?

Britain's voice at Yalta was negligible with Russia and America the two dominant countries.

Oswald Mosley, once again with his great vision and grasp of world politics was the spearhead of modern thought. Lady Mosley wrote in 1985 that the day war ended O.M. said 'Facism is dead, now we must make Europe', - his policy for Europe a Nation was clearly stated.

To me it seemed the next logical step forward. It would constitute a third force between Russia and America and abolish the internecine wars which had ravaged Europe.

The best of European science and technology would bring great benefits.

There is a great Greco-Roman history which is the background to our European thought and culture. One thing is certain — the ideal of Oswald Mosley's 'Vision Splendid' still lives on.

Mosley's short lived New Party is often dismissed as an interregnum between leaving the Labour Party and founding the British Union. Research reveals this to be a half truth. An appropriate slogan might have been NEW PARTY - NEW THINKING.

A DAY IN THE PARK SATURDAY AUGUST 1ST 1931

By Guy Mansell



SIR OSWALD MOSLEY M.P. BERATES 'THE GOVERNMENT OF MUTTONS'

Unconfirmed reports state that Mosley poured £100,000 into the New Party. A 32 page weekly newspaper, cinema advertising, pamphlets issued in a hectic orange, plush Westminster headquarters, meetings in the largest halls in the country showed that Mosley certainly meant business. Perhaps the chosen symbol of a clenched hand holding a marigold did leave the party open to a degree of levity!

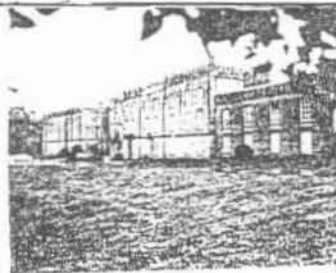
GALA DAY

Outside mainstream politics, one of the major events of the New Party was staging a fete and gala at Renishaw Park, Eckington, near Sheffield at the invitation of the owner, Captain Osbert Sitwell. Admission costing 6p in today's money (children half price) attracted 40,000 people. It was billed as the biggest and cheapest one day attraction in the whole of Great Britain; Punch and Judy; Tombola, Clock Golf; Roller Skating and Win a Pig

were supplemented by a ten act stage show; the Sheffield Orpheus Choir, a 31 Brass Band contest; 500 entry Athletic meeting; a steeplechase around the park and boxing with rising star, Billy Wells winning on points in a 10 round contest and exhibition rounds by coloured Canadian heavyweight Larry Gains certainly drew the crowds. By sunset, a lucky programme number could win you a brand new Morris Minor saloon car.

THE MAIN EVENT

Politics were not forgotten. Guests of honour, Sir Oswald Mosley M.P. together with his wife, Lady Cynthia Mosley M.P. both gave rousing speeches. Thanks to recently discovered contemporaneous notes it is possible to recall in some detail Sir Oswald's speech. He started with a scathing attack on the government saying "I stand here today because the Labour Party of which I was a former member had shamefully betrayed its pledge to the workers



RENISHAW HALL
(CONTEMPORARY PICTURE)

at the last election. It would have been an easier course for me to have sat tight in office than go into the political wilderness, but had I done so I could never have felt in my heart that I had been true to the working-class during the time I was fighting the workers battle. Were the Labour members of Parliament displaying placards at the last election telling the people that if they voted Labour their wages would be lowered and their hour lengthened. Did Miss Bondfield tell them that they would get less unemployment benefit? The reverse was promised, yet those things have happened under a Labour government. I charge Labour with not having the 'guts' or the courage to do anything. I am often told that I am imitating Rome by people who spend their lives imitating Moscow (cheers and applause). Any movement I have anything to do with will not be a movement based on Italy or Russia, but a British movement (applause). Is it not time we put our own country first? When you

have a crisis in Germany Mr MacDonald and Mr Henderson rush to Berlin. You cannot get anything done today unless you are a foreigner. If a man was drowning today he would have to shout for help in German (laughter). Economy at the expense of the worker. Economy at the expense of the policeman, civil servant and the school teacher. You have tried government by the old men of all parties. We are now asking you now to give the young men a chance in government" (applause).



SIR OSWALD MOSLEY AND LADY CYNTHIA TRYING THEIR LUCK AT THE COCONUT SHY

POSTSCRIPT

Who won the Morris Minor? At 10pm that night the lucky programme number was announced but no one claimed it. After discussion with Sir Oswald it was decided to donate it to a local Sheffield charity, the Children's Seaside Holiday Fund. The end of an innovative day in the life of the short lived New Party but a pre-cursor to greater and more lasting epoch making events.



BILLBOARD ADVERTISING THE NEW PARTY WEEKLY NEWSPAPER ACTION

We continue Blackshirt and D-Day Paratrooper Robert Richards abridged memoirs of Newcastle BUF Branch.

During the formative years he had taken casual work in order to devote more time to movement activities. After getting married he needed to return to full-time work. But as these memoirs show he continues during 1936 to further the Movements cause, leading to his later appointment as District Leader.

HOW THE BUF CAME TO GEORDIELAND

It had become an annual practice during the dark cold days of January and February, to set aside two evenings per week devoted to a study of some aspect of 'The Greater Britain'. It is remembered that in 1936, Chapter III, 'The State and the Citizen (Public Service - Private Liberty; and Fitness and Happiness)' was the subject of such attention. The aspects of this particular study which generated most discussion were OM's reference to fitness.

'It is a part of the dedicated life of a new movement to maintain that constant training in mind and body which is in readiness to serve when the time come'.

ON THE STREETS

An immediate reaction among several of the more energetic young members was to want weekly 'PT' sessions to be started. This burst of enthusiasm was countered by other members stating that as members of a variety of sports clubs they were already involved in keeping fit, and extra involvement of this kind would be interfering with their time available for Branch activities! A further view point was proffered; that a 'Harrier Group' participating in a weekly road-run as a 'pack', might well provide a unique publicity opportunity! The upshot was that throughout most of 1936, a group of 'blackshirted harriers' would be seen jogging around various districts and localities to Tyneside, most weekends or evenings.

This particular recollection is highlighted because, in retrospect it is believed that the inspiration behind this activity was to have a much deeper effect and reaction on many of our young members of the Movement in the next 2 or 3 years.

SELF ANALYSIS

On one particular evening before the cold Winter gave way to Spring a very long discussion took place on the varied experiences of the members who had participated in the intensive street-sales general election campaign in 1935. This self-examination can best be appreciated in the following tabulated summary:-

1) The Blackshirt uniform had proved to be a distinct advantage when worn by sales-teams.

2) One (most central) sales-pitch should never fail to be fully-manned every week. That additional pitches should be brought into operation from time to time (i.e. special political happenings, etc.) to create a BU impact on public interest.

3) A sales-team working a single pitch at any one period should preferably, number 4 personnel, and that the whole team needed to be concentrated with a 40 yards (approx.) range. In addition to the visual effect of uniforms and placards, the voice should also be used to draw attention.

4) The Blackshirt on sale-duty should be prepared to deal with a wide and varied range of enquiries from the public (good 'PR' was vital in the light of media bias) i.e.:-

a) Straight forward questions on BU policy, and/or view, on a current controversial political or economic issues;

b) Give directions for finding some near by street; road; store or shop etc.

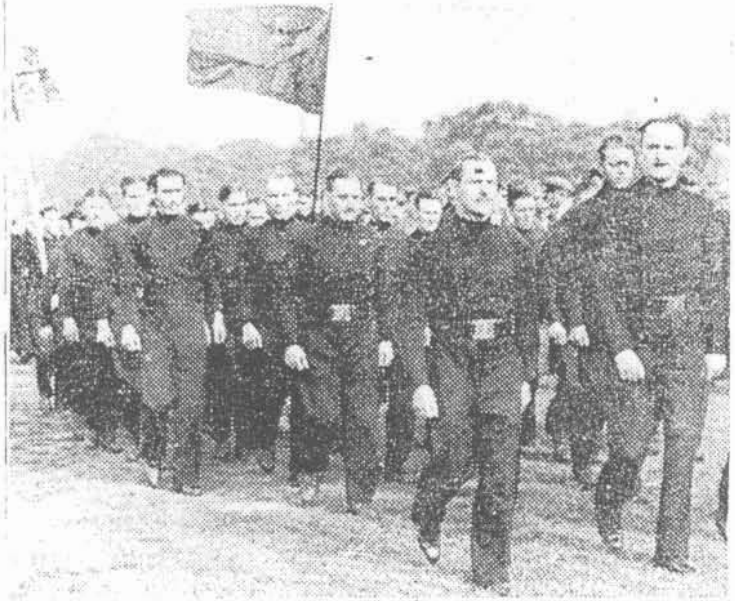
c) Not to be surprised if they were mistakenly thought to represent a religious order, sect or cult by some people, and so it was important to treat the error with courtesy, whilst firmly avoiding any kind of religious argument;

d) To quickly distinguish the genuine and on the other hand, the distracting time-wasting enquiries (usually a very verbose covert 'red'); in these circumstances it was considered advisable to move without undue haste, towards your nearest colleague, helpful also if your colleague was able to assess the situation and also, without undue haste, move in. This tactic invariably discouraged the prolongation of the situation or argument.

PUBLIC DISCONTENT

During the first 12 months of the newly elected National Government it was becoming increasingly evident from various sources, (i.e. readers' letter to the press; works canteens; local pubs; sports club dressing rooms, and other centres of social

gathering, and not least of all from our own street-sales teams being, rather more than usual, - 'asked questions') that in addition to the public discontent with the continuing decline of Britain's economic management there was also developing a 'ground swell of public concern and confusion with Britain's foreign policy and related defence?'



LEADING FROM THE FRONT. MOSLEY ON THE MARCH AT THE HEAD OF HIS BLACKSHIRTS

For one reason or another both Government and Opposition in the House of Commons and the House of Lords were reportedly both appearing to agree that 'Collective Security' under the aegis of the League of Nations was of the utmost importance. (British Union has for many years been on record as advocates for strong well armed and modernised: Sea, Land and Air Defence Services).

The National Government announced measures for expanding and strengthening the armed forces and the mass production of civilian gas-masks. The Conservative Party declared that it wanted 'Peace through Strength'. Whilst the Labour Party urged a policy of 'Disarmament' and at the same time, aided by clamouring pacifists and hysterical communists: 'Demanded that

Britain enforces measures to prevent German rearmament'.

The print and news media were presented with a field-day!, the 'experts' could not go wrong!: Alleged authoritative sources were providing column of speculative information. Opinion-moulding reports dressed-up as 'news' were at a premium! The general public had been given to understand after the general election '35 by their (democratic) free press, that they were either: 'political swingers' or 'apathetic'! Now they were being told by the same 'free press' that they had the choice of 'Peace' if: 'They rearmed and carried gas-masks' or 'Disarmed and forced Germany to do likewise'

The 'news' propaganda being 'fed' to our people was mind-bending, manipulative and destabilising. Public opinion was utterly confused. Against this background the Spring Budget, 1936, was launched. Those fortunate enough to be in employment had their income-tax substantially increased. The price of bread was to be increased. Unemployment was still growing. In Jarrow-upon-Tyne, seven 'workers' out of every ten were without work!. The 'Jarrow Hunger March' to London was organised and got under-way in October.

During 1936, the BUF published a ready-reference pocket book: '100 Questions and Answers'. It immediately became an essential 'piece of equipment', second only to the Blackshirt uniform. The value of this booklet was its facility to convey succinctly a

rapid understanding of the essential elements of the Mosley Message. The members welcomed this invaluable aid. Its publication was timely!

WALL OF SILENCE

It is re-called that during the summer months of '36 an air of expectancy(?) seemed to prevail among the young Blackshirts, an enthusiasm, excitement, and keenness to get out onto the City streets, more than ever! Somehow the 'wall of silence' must be breached?; the people were being gravely misguided! The sales-teams mounted a campaign that like that of '35 general election except that instead of three weeks they maintained the intensity for almost double the period.

The 'Harrier Keep-Fit Group' which started in mid-Spring, after sweat and some aching leg muscles, settled down into two separate Sections. The 'Z' section was about 2 dozen (mostly active sports men and women) doing a weekly run through urban streets and roads of about 5/6 miles. A special feature of this sections' run was a controlled manoeuvre in which everyone would, from time to time, close-up and form a 3 abreast column jogging in-step. In this tight formation the 'Pack' would commence a vocal pace-timed chant (a) '2-4-6-8-whom-do-we-appreciate? - M-O-S-L-E-Y- MOSLEY!' and (b) 'left-right-left-right (repeat), 'for-whom-do-we-fight? - we-fight-for-Britain-only!' or '2-4-6-8-the-King-must-not-abdicate!'.

Following each of these demonstrative tactics the 'Pack' would break-step and resume informal jogging.

1 section was for 'beginners', led and encouraged by two or three of the very fit 'Z' section. This second section turned-out at least twice a month, participating in a less demanding 3 miles road route at what was known as 'scout-pace'. This comprised an even mixture of walking and jogging (200 yards fast walk - 200 yards jog; there was no vocal out-put). After about three or four of these 'beginner-work-outs' some moved to the 'Z' section programme, whilst others were satisfied to remain with the 'x' section. From both sections came the team leaders, men and women, for the intensified activities on the City streets of 'Geordieland'.

BROTHER/SISTERHOOD

It is of interest to record that these activities contributed to a noticeably rapid development of a comradely team-spirit among members from widely differing

backgrounds, leading very quickly to an equally rapid throwing-off of the initial reticence and shyness of some of the new young intake to our politically vigorous Movement. After an invigorating 'harrier-pack' work-out, tongues would be enthusiastically exercised! Invariably the conversations would start with some particular reaction to the 'blackshirt' harriers as they jogged by, particularly when they were going a 'publicity-chant'. Whilst, by-and-large, the neighbourhood folk were curious, the openly and audibly expressed comments made from time to time were rather surprising? Not least of all: the shouts of encouragement and loudly spoken words of support were not infrequent. The derogatory shouts when they did occur were always after the 'pack' had passed by. There was, among those participating, a highly satisfied feeling that they were doing 'their-bit' in breaching the 'wall of silence' and above all, many other people seemed to think so to!



BLACKSHIRT SALES DRIVE. THE WEEKLY NEWSPAPER BEING SOLD ON THE STREETS OF NEWCASTLE

OVERSEAS EVENTS

Other topics of conversation on these occasions related to the emotive attention being given by the media to European events, notably: the 'Spanish civil war' and the 'Italo-Abyssinian conflict'. Much speculative reporting and comment on the so-called reactions of other European governments to these events was being served up in considerable doses to our people by the print and radio media. Highlighting in particular the growing use of war planes in both of these theatres of 'bloody violence'. Seemingly, to herald the announcement that - 'Britain was to Expand the Royal Air Force at the rate of one new

squadron per month'. This was soon to be followed by a second announcement: 'The Air Ministry is planning to recruit an RAF volunteer reserve'.

Britain's economic problems were receiving less and less media attention. By the Autumn '36, the concentration of the news media reporting and manipulative comment on political problems outside Britain were clearly having a discernible effect upon our people, one could now detect a growing uncertainty and unease among many, and in others, a misguided bias. The power of the 'Press' was becoming more and more obvious! The following quote from OM's speech to an audience numbering thousands in East London, was to be of considerable significance to all Blackshirts in the light of what was soon to follow:-

'They say their system is all right and there is nothing wrong with it. But how are we to judge any system? Surely by the conditions of its people! Today we have in England low wages; long hours;

publicised 'ballyhoo' at the commencement of the march from Tyneside. Many of those unfortunate Tynesiders returned home, more embittered and disillusioned, realising that they had been blatantly used, and their miserable plight cynically exploited for no other reason than to cover a communist plot to create massive disorder in Britain's capital. (This tactic was to be glibly referred to, some 50 years later, as : 'rent-a-mob' by the same print-media who in 1936 decided that that information was 'not in the public interest?').

REPRESSIVE

In November 1936, the Public Order Act, was rushed through Parliament and became law on the 1st January 1937. The media triumphantly proclaimed that this Act of Parliament sounded the death-knell for Sir Oswald Mosley.

In his end-of-the-year-message the District Leader, Jack Lynne, reminded 'Geordie Blackshirts of a speech made my OM on the occasion of a previous anniversary in which he said, quote:-

'The slow soft days are behind us, perhaps for ever. Hard days and dark nights lie ahead, no relaxing of the muscle or mind and will. It is at once our privilege and our ordeal to live in a dangerous period in the history of man. The tents of ease are struck and the soul of man is once more upon the march ...'

The New Year lay ahead. The second year of the 'phlegmatic' Stanley Baldwin ('all-party') Government. The 5th Year of the British Union. *To be continued.*

MY LIFE

By

Sir Oswald Mosley

'The best written volume of memoirs emulating from my generation' Sir Colin Coote (Sunday Telegraph)

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rotten houses; unemployment and poverty corrupting our people - all unnecessary! ...'

JARROW TRUTHS

In November, the 'Jarrow Hunger Marches' arrived in London only to find that the Prime Minister, Stanley Baldwin, not only refused to meet a deputation of 'Marchers', but stated publicly, 'This is the way civil strife begins and civil strife may not end until it is civil war!'

The Jarrow marchers also found the Labour Party had become very wary of being officially and publicly identified with them in London. This was certainly an about-face attitude from that displayed during the widely

The fleet of speaker vans purchased in the early days of British Union proved to be an excellent investment. All did valiant service up to the final May Day Peace Rally in 1940. Six years before three of the vans spent the summer of 1934 touring the country publicising Mosley's Agricultural Policy.

By Tom Maybanks

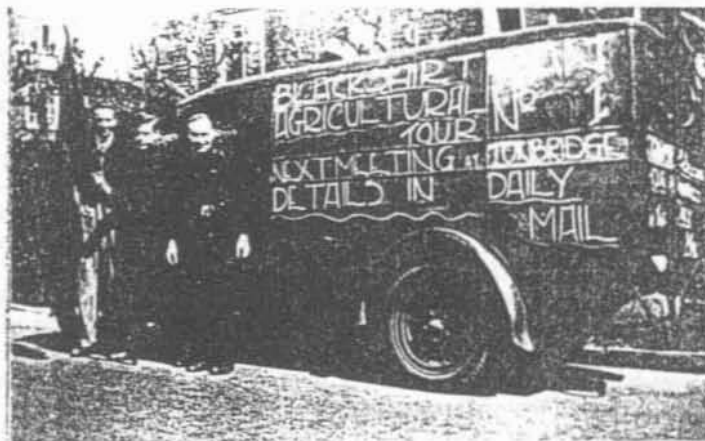
SPREADING THE WORD

Agriculture always took a leading role in the British Union determination to rebuild Britain. For nearly a century this great industry had been the sport of party politics and the victim of town based politicians.

It had long fallen prey to international finance. Chickens from Poland, Eggs from China, Butter from Russia, Beef from Argentina, Danish bacon being imported via Germany to avoid quoter. All staples that with encouragement from the government could have stimulated production in this country. Walter Elliot, the Minister of Agriculture in the National Government said he "wanted to go slow on reform" on another occasions "We cannot expect any vast increase in the consumption of food" This at a time when half the nation was undernourished because of their economic plight. Just 20% of wheat was home grown together with 14% of butter while the declared 'surplus' of milk was running at 40,000,000 gallons a month!

TAKING THE MESSAGE TO THE PEOPLE

The well documented 'Tythe Wars' in which Blackshirts took a prominent part was just a symptom of the desperate state of the countryside. Generating the formation of politically motivated groups in urban and rural communities, was a problem that the agricultural section of the British Union needed to address. Apart from his high profile, set piece meetings, Mosley always included speaking arrangements



The speaker van arriving in Tonbridge, Kent. In charge of L to R; unknown driver, Mike Goulding, Bob Shevill

in market towns such as Kendal, Ashford, Appleby and Bedford. A considerable part of these audiences were made up from people who lived in the surrounding countryside. Requests to Headquarters inviting a speaker to their community often came from small towns and villages. Away from large centres of population, the urban branch with offices and club facilities was near impossible to sustain. Reliance needed to be placed on the formation of active politically motivated groups in every polling area.

VOX POPULI

With the slogan "British food for British mouths" three of the

newly acquired loud speaker vans were requisitioned for a five month tour of the country. Apart from the driver each van was staffed with two experienced speakers. Petrol money and a small allowance to sustain the men were provided. They were expected to sleep in the vans but very often supporters were pleased to put them up for the night and provide a cooked meal. The itinerary of two meetings a

Goulding, Alexander, Mason, Shevill, Collier, George, Preece, Seaborn, Ellis and Ogden. The core of the campaign was visiting small towns and villages, distributing literature, holding a meeting and hopefully gaining membership. All wore uniforms to help stimulate interest. As one Blackshirt commented "This excited greater curiosity rather than being a pull" Detailed reports regularly sent to headquarters spoke of meetings of 300/400 people. Many copies of the weekly Blackshirt newspaper were sold.

RESULTS

In the wake of all this activity "a promising group had been started in Gravesend". "The Thanet branch is now established". "Brightlingsea has registered a branch with the support of workers in the fishing industry" again seriously effected by the lack of demand because of cheap imports. Fulfilling the targeted 720 meetings van one completed its odyssey in late September when a final meeting was held in St. Just, Cornwall. The assessment at Headquarters was that this novel approach to campaigning had been a resounding success.

In compiling this article the author was privileged to communicate with the last surviving member of the 1934 agricultural tour. Now aged ninety, this brother blackshirt, gave valuable information that undoubtedly would have been lost for ever. A debt is owed to those who over the years have provided Comrade with first hand accounts of events now distant in time. We exist to research and publish for posterity. The story of Mosley and his supporters lives on.

ON THE TRAIL OF BLACKSHIRT HERITAGE IN HORSHAM

A fascinating exhibition charting the history of the Drill Hall in Denne Road, Horsham, West Sussex has recently opened to the public after the local District Council purchased the listed building to secure its use for the community. Inside the exhibition, an account of a mass meeting of British Union in February 1939, to urge 'Mind Britain's Business' and



MOSLEY SPEAKS

Drill Hall, HORSHAM
WEDNESDAY, FEB. 22nd, 8 pm.

Admission Free - Res. Tickets 2/6, 1/6, 6d
From A. NIGHTINGALE, 22 Hurst Rd., Horsham & B.M. Bookshops

ADVERTISEMENT FOR MOSLEY'S MEETING

'Peace with Honour In Europe', is retold by a local resident. Particularly amusing is a pathetic attempt by 'Red Front' hecklers to disrupt Mosley's speech, the simple device of blaring out the National Anthem on a loudspeaker, together with stewards, being sufficient to dampen down the childish rowdiness of Mosley's opponents.

day was based on the many requests that had been received at headquarters.

ON THE ROAD

On Monday April 30th 1934 the departing vans were inspected by Sir Oswald Mosley in the courtyard of the Blackhouse, Chelsea. After wishing them well and to the cheers of members, the van turned into Kings Road. Van one headed for Kent, the southern counties and onward to Cornwall. Van two, Essex, up the East coast onto Northumberland. Van three, the West Midlands, Wales and Scotland. Among the permanent staff and volunteers during the five months were Plathén,

I thoroughly recommend a visit to the Drill Hall Exhibition, and whilst in the area why not take a look at the plaque outside Horsham Museum, in The Causeway, which mentions local minister, Neville Henderson's own efforts for peace, and his enthusiastic encouragement to the England Football Team to give a



DRILL HALL HORSHAM

Fascist salute, before a friendly match with Germany at White Hart Lane, Tottenham in 1938!

Finally, readers of Comrade might also like to view the Band Stand in 'The Carfax' market square, and stand where District Leader of Horsham, Alfred Nightingale, and pioneer of organic farming, Jorian Jenks, the British Union prospective parliamentary candidate for Horsham and Worthing, stood many times thrilling the assembled town and country folk with their stirring oratory.

A visit can be extended to include Selsey, scene of the largest Blackshirt Summer Camp in 1937. Fuller details can be found in the publication Blackshirts-on-Sea.

BOOK REVIEW

A Life of Contrasts

A Life of Contrasts
Gibson Square Books
ISBN 1-903933-08-0
£10.99 (paperback)



DIANA WITH HER
SISTER, UNITY, IN
NURENBURG 1937

A LIFE OF CONTRASTS

'A candid page-turning memoir'
'Witty and amusing'
'Confident and adult'
'Amusing and well written'
'An autobiography of real distinction'

Just a few of the sharp comments that Diana Mosley's autobiography invoked when it was first published by Hamish Hamilton in 1977. This latest edition by Gibson Square Books has already gone into a reprint.

'At the end of a long life it seems to me true that Belloc's "laughter and the love of friends" are indeed among the things that have made it worth living; friends and relations', writes Diana Mosley. Actually she first wrote those words in the first edition of her autobiography, published 25 years' ago. Happily, the 'end of a long life' was premature. In her nineties Diana Mosley is still with us but 'long life' is now perhaps more apposite. A life filled with both laughter and love as this new edition of *'A Life of Contrasts'* reminds us.

MARRIAGE

The 'Contrasts' of the title were nevertheless quite stark. One of the celebrated Mitford Girls she was born in 1910, the fourth of seven children of Lord and Lady Redesdale. An early marriage to Bryan Guinness (later Lord Moyne) introduced her to a different world to that of her upbringing which had been largely that of country life in a relatively impoverished upper-class household. The reality sounds every bit as eccentric as the well-known fictional picture in her sister Nancy's books. Her marriage brought her into contact with the literary and artistic world of the 1920s and she became close friends of many prominent writers and artists, some of whom remained friends for life. The book provides vivid portraits of them, notably Lytton Strachey, Lord Berners and Evelyn Waugh, as well as of the fashionable world associated with people like Lady Cunard, another close friend at the time.

The marriage ended in divorce and she later married Sir Oswald Mosley, who became the most important feature in her life. Although essentially a non-political person, in the 1930s, quite independently of Mosley, she came to know Hitler and other leaders of the Third Reich, something which the ill-disposed

continue to remember and raise on every possible occasion, however irrelevant. The impressions she gives here of the German leaders are as they appeared to her at the time, not a view qualified by hindsight. She was also on friendly terms with Winston Churchill to whom she was related and there is an interesting chapter comparing Hitler with Churchill.



DIANA, SIR OSWALD AND ALEXANDER THE NIGHT
BEFORE HIS ARREST MAY 22ND 1940

ARREST

In May 1940 she was arrested under Defence Regulation 18B and was to spend the next three and a half years in Holloway prison followed by house arrest for the rest of the war. To the general injustice of imprisonment without trial was added the particular injustice of imprisonment for no other reason than that she was married to Mosley. Moreover, at the time of her arrest she was breastfeeding an eleven-week old baby. After the war and the eventual lifting of the Labour government's petty refusal of passports she travelled widely with Mosley and they eventually made their main home in France at Orsay, near Paris. Wherever they were she provided him with constant and devoted support.

AUTHORSHIP

She demonstrated very practical evidence of that support in the 1950s when for six years she edited a monthly magazine, *'The European'*, which Mosley had founded to advance the cause of European Union. This editorial work and the articles and reviews she contributed to the magazine revealed Diana Mosley as an accomplished and entertaining writer, a writer with a distinctive style – a lightness of touch, coupled with an underlying seriousness; the illuminating flash of wit, sometimes deadly. In

addition to her autobiography she also published a biography of the Duchess of Windsor in 1980 and *'Loved Ones'* (1985), a collection of memories of favourite friends including a long personal memoir of Oswald Mosley. She also became a book reviewer for a number of publications including the now defunct *'Books and Bookmen'* and the *Evening Standard*.

This new edition of *'A Life of Contrasts'* contains several additional chapters covering her life since Mosley's death with portraits of younger and more recent friends. There are also a number of interesting new photographs.

Peter Wallis

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You may learn a little or a lot!

BRITISH BLACKSHIRTS IN LATVIA?

THE BRITISH UNION OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT 1933-1935

By John Anderson

From its earliest days, the British Union of Fascists attracted large numbers of British overseas members, not only from the Empire and Colonies but also from continental Europe. Many of these members living in Italy and Germany had the unique opportunity to experience the new revolutionary creed at first hand. The result was that many became extremely active within the movement – working for the day when British Union would come to power.

During April 1933, Sir Oswald Mosley and many of his senior officers visited Rome where they met the Italian Prime Minister, Benito Mussolini and examined the progress of the Corporate State after ten years of Fascism. In the same month the first BUF overseas branch was formed, appropriately in Milan, the birth place of Fascism. This branch was directly responsible to the Department of Organisation, under the Deputy Leader, Dr Robert Forgan. However, with overseas applications flooding in, it was not long until authorisation was given for the formation of the Foreign Relations and Overseas Development (F.R.O.). This would co-ordinate these members and encourage the formation of other overseas branches.

Its main role was to form contacts with overseas British subjects, meet foreign representatives and to foster close relationships with other Fascist organisations, initially concentrating on the other European Modern Movements. Each member of the section was an expert in two or three European languages and among their duties would be to spend several hours each week reading foreign newspapers, summarising the relevant article. They also produced the in-house 'F.R.O. Bulletin' for circulation among the speakers and heads of departments. The Research Department was responsible for supplying facts and figures to support the policy of the B.U.F., answering enquiries and keeping a records of statistics in order to ensure that the policy of the Movement was kept up to date. The most important daily, provincial and Dominion papers were read and extracts filed for

future reference. Copies of important government publications were obtained and held in the Research Reference Library. This information would then be made available for both the British Union's local and national speakers via a 'Speakers Notes' pamphlet – and the fortnightly 'Speakers Bulletin' produced in conjunction with the Leader's Private Secretary, George Sutton.

STUDYING FASCISM AT FIRST HAND

In an effort to advance the study and development of Fascism with the younger members, the department arranged 'Student Tours' of both Italy and Germany. The Italian tours involved visits to Rome, Turin and Milan where members stayed at private homes and student camp. In Germany the tours included Cologne, Berlin and Hamburg – again private homes supplied the accommodation with a Voluntary Labour Camp in the Hartz Mountains completing their stay.

However, the Travel Bureau under the control of Lieutenant-Colonel Allcard soon received criticism when a Blackshirt from Bromley noticed that the Bureau offered First, Second and Third Class travel. Such class-consciousness was 'not the Fascist way' according to the south London Mosleyite. In August 1933, a reciprocal visit was arranged for a delegation of fifty Italian Fascists to NHQ. This followed by Dutch representatives from the NSB and later members of the Hitler Youth.

BRITISH UNION'S OWN OVERSEAS RADIO STATION

Communication with NHQ was vital for the overseas members and this was highlighted when, in July 1934, the proposed White City rally scheduled for August 5th was cancelled. The reason given at the time was the threat of damage to the tracks and facilities by demonstrators that would risk the opening ceremony of the Empire Games arranged for the following day. (However, Home Office files from that period now open at the Public Record Office in London show that the government deliberately conspired to bring pressure to bear on the White City



MILAN BRANCH MEMBERS ON PARADE

management simply to deny Mosley the opportunity to speak). The efficient departmental structure of the Movement quickly contacted the overseas branches via the Registry Department. This contained the personal details of all branch officials and ensured ticket refunds for those members who had arranged to travel to London.



W.S. BOGLE IN CHARGE OF
G2QD

Deputy Branch Officer, W S Bogle also made a number of broadcasts via the BUF's own radio station G2QD, thus keeping the overseas members informed of the latest developments. The station, which was received on four continents and in twenty six countries, was mainly used for propaganda purposes but became an invaluable aid in communicating with the growing number of overseas members. With increasing interest in the other European Movements, all members were invited to attend



BLACKSHIRT RADIO STATION G2QD CARD SENT TO LISTENERS

foreign language classes at NHQ. German and Italian classes with Henry Main-Weller were held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, while Tuesday was reserved for Spanish lessons under the tuition of Sturup. When sufficient interest had been gained in local British Union branches, a member from NHQ would be attached to the branch or a local member would be appointed as Branch Instructor. Lectures by recently returned members from the continent followed and in May 1934 a special film night attended by the Leader and many senior Blackshirt officers viewed clips of the Milan branch at their various meetings and parades.

TOWARDS A NEW EMPIRE UNION

In July 1933, Lieutenant-Colonel Eric Campbell of the Australian New Guard held a meeting with Sir Oswald Mosley in London. From these talks it was agreed that the BUF and Australian New Guard should form 'The New Empire Union' – an organisation of Fascist movements within the Empire. The main goal of this



LT. COL. ERIC CAMPBELL

organisation was to make the Empire entirely self-contained by adopting the 'Greater Britain' policy of self-sufficiency or 'autarky'.

Membership of the Union quickly increased when the South African New Guard, the Canadian Union of Fascists and the Ulster Fascist Movement joined. To co-ordinate these contacts and form further branches within the British Empire, authorisation was granted for the creation of the 'Colonial Bureau' as a sub section of the F.R.O.

The enthusiasm for the 'New Empire Union' was quickly demonstrated when in June 1934, Fascist Edward Yorke volunteered to organise a branch in the West Indies – and by the end of 1934 further branches of British Union had been formed in Tobago, Singapore and Hong Kong.

One major disadvantage of the overseas members was the use of the Fasces as the official BUF badge. For many Germans and Italians it was assumed that these Blackshirts were members of the Italian Movement. The problem was raised at NHQ by the Officer Commanding the Cologne Branch and within months a new BUF badge, compete with Union Jack, was approved.

By the end of 1934 British Union had formed branches throughout Europe not only Germany and Italy but in Madrid, Malta, Paris, Brussels and at Riga in Latvia.



OSWALD MOSLEY VISITS BENITO MUSSOLINI IN ROME APRIL 1933

MILAN BRANCH – BUF OVERSEAS BIRTH PLACE

The first BUF branch to be formed overseas was in Milan during April 1933. The Branch Organiser was Mr John A Celli who was assisted by his brother, Deputy Branch Officer, G. Celli. Recruitment was steady and by February 1934, the branch had out grown its original premises and had moved to Piazza, Missori, Milan No.9. Here at least one member was always present ensuring that the branch remained open all day to process applications, distribute BUF literature and answer queries from potential members.

The Milan branch not only drew its members from the city but also from many of the surrounding towns. Sections were formed in Genoa, Bordighiera, San Remo, Turin, Bologna, Florence, Messina and Catina. Most of these sections would achieve branch status during 1934 with Branch Organiser, Celli as a result of his excellent work, being promoted to Staff Officer with responsibility for all Italian branches. One of his main duties was to ensure that the details of the local BUF, contact officers were distributed to all British subjects entering Northern Italy. This was done with the use of post cards, displayed at the numerous railway stations located along the frontier. If assistance was required in Genoa they would contact Sub Branch Officer, Osbourne Ray Brown at the BUF HQ, 49 Via Assarotti, Genoa. If going to Florence, Sub Branch Officer, W S Hay was available and if Bordighiera was their destination, Sub Branch Officer Ronald Coates was the man on the spot.

In May 1934, Genoa became a fully operational branch with SBO Brown being promoted to the rank of Branch officer. This was quickly followed in June, when the Turin branch, under the leadership of Mr Blanford Tall, was officially recognised. C G Boscoe representing the Turin branch was dispatched to NHQ. Here, at an 'impressive ceremony' held in the quadrangle, the Leader, supported by several senior Blackshirt officials including the Chief of Staff, Ian H Dundas presented him with branch colours.

To keep local members informed on BUF policy and the Movements progress there were regular broadcasts by Staff Officer, Celli via an amateur radio station from the Milan headquarters. National

Headquarters also dispatched officials to help the growing Italian branches. Senior Propaganda Officer and the Chief of Staff regularly visited Italy, in fact spending part of his honeymoon, during December 1933, touring the many Italian branches and groups.



CHIEF OF STAFF IAN DUNDAS VISITS THE MILAN BRANCH OF BRITISH UNION

GERMANY CALLING

Milan may have been the first overseas branch but the largest was in the German city of Cologne. Formed in June 1933 within its first six months the branch could boast the enrolment of nearly 100 members. These members, being drawn mainly from the large British student community which attended Cologne University. The importance shown by NHQ was highlighted when in January 1934, AAO, Raven Thomson visited the university and made the case for British Fascism to an overflowing lecture hall of 400 students.

With its continuing growth, in March 1934, the branch was reorganised by the Branch Supervisor, Deputy Administrative Officer, R Shaw. The Officer in Charge became Branch Officer, H L Driffeld, assisted by DBO, George Warwick who was also the Branch Treasurer and SBO, H Pink who co-ordinated the propaganda officers. These officers included APO, Bond Martin, Dobson, Peake and Muhlins. Their propaganda tours covering the Rhineland and Westphalia area were clearly successful, as by June, sections had been formed at Mainz and Dusseldorf.

Unusually the Cologne branch had no female members. This was due to the difficulty of nationality. British women married to Germans were German subjects and therefore, not permitted to join the BUF, German women married to members were British subjects but these ladies knew little or nothing about British Fascism

and in many cases couldn't even speak English.

By January 1934, a Berlin branch had been formed under the leadership of Branch Officer, B A Owens, the owner of an English language school. He was ably assisted by SBO, K Kopley who also performed the duties of Treasurer and Secretary from the branch offices at Leipsigerstrasse 107, Berlin W8.

PARIS, MADRID AND RIGA BRANCHES

Among smaller European branches, the Paris branch, located at 2 Cite Condorcet, Paris 9 was organised by Mr J E Cleverly and was opening from March 1934, although little is known about its activities. This is also true for the Madrid branch, however, it did have as a member MR C E Baldwin, the cousin of Stanley Baldwin. The Malta branch was run by a Political Director, de Piro and his secretary, Chapelle. It was certainly active enough to have 'Blackshirt' opponents distributing pamphlets stating that 'the BUF branch in Malta had been formed to assist Mussolini in a take over of the island'.

Finally, the Riga branch, which was formed by National Headquarters, Branch Officer, W Lyall. This branch consisted of unattached members, who had joined while serving on many of the British ships which traded along the Baltic coast. The branch was used as a meeting place by these members of the 'BUF Mercantile Marine' organisation. Here the latest policy on shipping was discussed and the Movements newspapers and literature distributed.

It is hoped that this short study of the overseas department and branches has given a flavour of an area of the 'Blackshirt' Movement which has for too long been ignored by many researchers.

COMRADE

First published in 1986.

The Friends of Mosley newsletter is still going strong.

Back numbers are available for purchase. Please write for details to BCM/FOM, London, WC1N 3XX.

BOOK REVIEW

The Black Book of Communism
Harvard University Press
£ 25.00
ISBN 0-674-07608-7

For the first time a comprehensive attempt has been made to catalogue and analyse the crimes of communism over seventy years. First published in France, its 858 pages of searing indictment proved a sensation. Six authors chronicle the world wide growth of a criminal conspiracy known as Communism. 'The Great Helmsman' 'Uncle Ho' 'The Great Leader' 'Uncle Joe' together with many other dictators are systematically shown to have embraced an ideology that swiftly turned to repression, crime and murder. After the downfall of so many despots, closed archives are gradually giving up their innermost secrets, adding weight to the many long term critics of these regimes. Because of the European dimension, the interest of F.O.M. readers will no doubt be drawn to points East and in particular Russia. By the time Churchill had expediently embraced 'Uncle Joe', Stalin had the blood of over twenty million on his hands. From its inception the Soviet Regime was based on terror to ensure the continuing security of its leaders. Real or



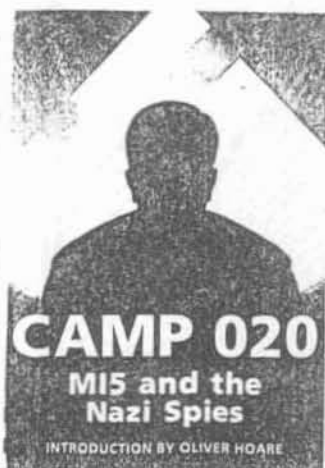
THE LUBYANKA G.P.U.
HEADQUARTERS IN
MOSCOW

imagined enemies were constantly being rounded up, forced to confess and then with or without a so called trial, shot. The 'lucky' ones being sent off to the Gulag. Stalin with a stroke of

a pen consigned thousands to death. The grandiose five year plans are shown for their true vacuous worth. The Lubyanka, headquarters of the G.P.U. in Moscow, symbolised the arbitrary cruelty of the regime. Many entered, few emerged alive. The Communist International once ruled a third of the world. This book should be required reading in schools, if only to remind us how close we came to being overrun by the barbarians. One hopes with the archives yielding a constant stream of secrets that this book is the first of many. What better way to argue the anti-communist case with unimpeachable facts.

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BOOK REVIEW



At the outbreak of war, in September 1939, Britain was awash with rumour. Fifth columnists were everywhere. An overheard opinionated conversation could land a person in court for alleged defeatism. A chink of light through a drawn curtain brought charges of signalling to the enemy. High on the government's agenda was the spurious charge that members of the British Union would collude with the enemy to help bring victory. Sir Oswald Mosley's declaration of 3rd September 1939 stated "I ask you to do nothing to injure our country, or to help any other power". This edict held good for all members. The initial rounding up of aliens together with monitoring new arrivals from neutral countries was justified, but how to weed out the spies among them? Enter

Lieutenant Colonel Robin William George Stephens known as 'tin eye' on account of his habitually wearing a monocle. Born in 1900 he opted for a military career. He served mainly in India rising to become an assistant judge advocate. Having mastered seven languages, in 1939 he was invited to join MI5. He became the natural choice to head the newly formed interrogation centre at Latchmere House, Ham Common near Richmond.



LIEUTENANT COLONEL ROBIN STEPHENS KNOWN AS 'TIN EYE' FOR HABITUALLY WEARING A MONOCLE

IN HOUSE TERROR

With the paranoia of fifth columnists running rampant around the country over twenty top B.U. officials, under the catch all regulation 18b were the first to go through the rigours of 'tin eyes' interrogation. Spread over many weeks it was a time of refining techniques with loyal

British subjects being the guinea pigs: Thomson, Francis-Hawkins, McKechnie, Watts, Pacey all are known to have suffered the harsh treatment. This denied that extreme measures were used but evidence in the F.O.M. archives tell a different story. First hand accounts from those who were subjected to mental and physical torture exist. Sleep deprivation, gun to head, starvation, lights in the eyes and violence on a regular basis are recorded. Not surprisingly Stephens found nothing of an incriminating nature and in a few weeks dismissed the British Union prisoners as "Shabby nonentities".

WHITEWASH

No British Union cases are detailed in the book, the files are said to have been destroyed. What does survive in the P.R.O. related to over 800 detainees have been weeded of any reference to incarceration at Ham Common. A disgrace and gross injustice to historians.

REFINED TERROR

At the expense of B.U. lives, Stephens had developed and refined interrogation techniques that were in the course of the war visited on over three hundred cases of alleged spies. His attitude can be gauged by his comments freely given in the book "hanging was too good for him" "Spineless spies who had their spinal cords broken by the hangman's rope" "His live body was delivered to the Norwegians for proper disposal" "A low voiced snivelling creature" The Stephens manuscript, the third attempt to write the history of

Ham Common, lay in a MI5 vault for over fifty years until its release to the P.R.O. in 1999. Despite the very poor writing it does give some insight into events that have been kept from the public for too long. Ham was a closed unit without outside scrutiny. Interrogations were conducted by camp staff under the monocled Stephens who gave no quarter.



LATCHMERE HOUSE, HAM COMMON, RICHMOND

CONTINUED TERROR

After the war when Latchmere House was closed down Stephens was put in charge of Camp 74 at Band Nenndorf. As a result of his stewardship he faced Court Martial charged by inmates of physical torture, intimidation, solitary confinement, lack of exercise, deprivation of clothes during winter, buckets of cold water being thrown over prisoners, inadequate medical attention, personal property stolen. Stephens, it is recorded was cleared of all charges.

Camp020 MI5 and the Nazi Spies
By Lt Col R.W.G. Stephens
ISBN 1-903365-08-2 Public
Records Office £19.99

STORY OF A DES RES

By Andrew Barrett



PRYORS FARM AT ALDWICK

It is not unknown for estate agents to include in their eye catching advertisements the fact, where applicable, that 'Sir Oswald Mosley once lived here'. Presumably it is thought the inclusion of such a fact added a certain frisson to prospective purchasers when viewing a property. A recent brochure

offering the delightfully thatched Pryors Farm at Aldwick near Bognor Regis included the sentence; "The property also has an interesting history and it is believed to have been used by Oswald Moseley (actual spelling) in the 1930s".

This rhetoric might be termed 'stretching the truth a bit'. In 1935 the success of previous Blackshirt Summer Camps meant a larger and more convenient site was needed to accommodate the burgeoning number of members who enjoyed a few days by the briny. A sympathetic farmer (it has yet to be clarified if he was a B.U. member) offered his land at Pagham just a short walk from the sea. What is known is that on the afternoon of Sunday July 14th

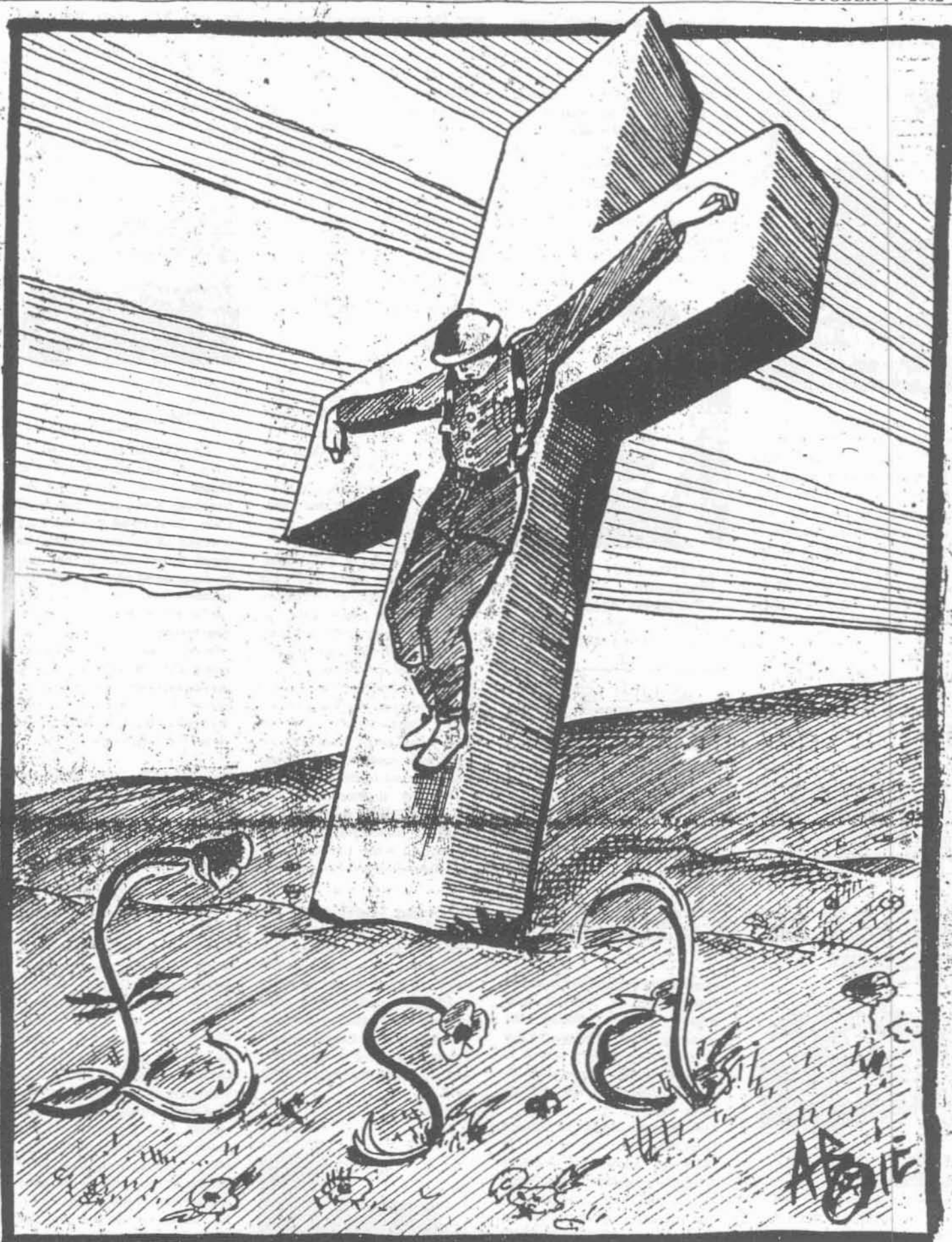
Sir Oswald Mosley visited the camp, spoke to members, took a dip in the sea then went on to a sell out meeting at the Theatre Royal, Bognor Regis, returning to London the same night. What is conjecture is that Mosley may well have visited Gerald Smart's Pryors farmhouse to personally add his thanks for the use of his land.



BUS SHELTER WITH MEMORIAL PLAQUE

SACRIFICE

The twist on this story comes some years later. A short walk from the farmhouse stands a wooden framed bus shelter. Inside a plaque stating 'Erected for the comfort of bus passengers in memory of flying officer Richard Rae Smart D.F.C. killed in action November 1943'. Gerald Smart, who had welcomed the Blackshirts to his land lost his only son in the fight against Nazi Germany and had never quite laid his grief to rest. Many others associated with British Union suffered the same wanton loss in the Brothers War. Sir Alliot Vernon Roe (founder of the Avro Aircraft Company), a son; Admiral Sir Barry Domville, a son; Lady Diana Mosley, a much loved brother; Alexander Raven Thomson, his only son (see John Christian's article). Certainly, the sale of Pryors Farm stirs memories.



THE ABOVE CARTOON WAS PUBLISHED IN BLACKSHIRT NOVEMBER 14TH 1936. IT WAS THE WORK OF ALEXANDER BOWIE WHO JOINED THE BRITISH UNION AS AN ACTIVE MEMBER. APART FROM STEWARDING, HE ALSO SPOKE AT MEETINGS. HIS REAL TALENT LAY IN DRAWING. THIS WAS SOON RECOGNISED AND FOR YEARS HIS INCISIVE CARTOONS WERE PUBLISHED IN THE PAGES OF ACTION AND BLACKSHIRT

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

OCTOBER

Lucan, Pil/Off Dennis, DFM:
RAF(VR): 207 & 607
'Dambuster' Sqdn: 21: Leeds
Branch British Union Blackshirt
Cadet: killed in action over
Kembs Dam: Lies in Dornbach
War Cemetery, Germany.

2 October 1944

Franklin, SQDN Ldr Robert, H:
RAF 115 Sqdn and Epping
British Union: 28: Killed in
action Wilhelmshaven op.:
Remembered on Air Force
Memorial, Runnymede.

16 October 1944

Limb, Pte W.F: REME reservist:
Norwood British Union: killed in
action Normandy: Remembered
Service Panel, Norwood
Cemetery.

27 October 1944

Resulting from COMRADE
research further old comrades,
lost to us for more than half a
century, join our Roll of
Honour.

Willis, Flt Sgt Frederick A.W.:
RAF(VR) 75(RNZAF) Sqdn:
Streatham Branch British Union:
killed in action Frisian Islands
op.: has no known grave and is
remembered on the Runnymede
Memorial.

3 March 1943

How They Died

Flt. Sgt. Frederick A W Willis

Known in British Union as
'Frank' Willis, nothing is known
of the action involving the loss of
the Wellington in which Sgt.
Willis was air-gunner. It was his
6th operation. The other two
aircraft of 75 Sqdn detailed to
carry out a 'gardening' operation
off German Frisian Islands
reported weather clear, visibility
good, and no ack ack or
searchlights. On return they met a
JU88 and BF398 but after a brief
exchange of fire the enemy
dispersed. Their lack of
enthusiasm suggests that they
may have already met Frank
Willis and his crew and were
satisfied with their one 'kill' for
the day.

Frank Cork DFC writes:

Frank was an old friend of mine
at Streatham Branch Maderia
Hall HQ and we both attended
first aid classes at the Black
House NHQ in Chelsea. I think
he was engaged to one of the
Women's Special Squad
specially trained for stewarding
rough meetings. I don't know if
they ever married. Later I
transferred to Norwood Branch.
My last meeting him was on a
crowded troop train from
Liverpool Street. He was coming
off leave and returning to my
squadron at Feltwell. The train
stopped at Downham Market, and
squeezing past in the corridor, I
recognised Frank. No time for
explanations of surprise but a
hurried promise to meet soon. He
was on the same base at Feltwell
with 75 sqdn and I at the Satellite
station, Methwold. I have long
been concerned on what
happened to him and working it
out I think that immediately after
our meeting, possibly the next
night or early morning he must
have gone on his last and fatal
operation.

'Gardening' as it was called was
in fact mine laying, the
vegetables sowed were mines for
the shipping lanes. They had to
be dropped accurately from low
level - 50 to 100 feet above the
sea in darkness, well defended by
'Flack' ships the operations were
always hazardous and losses very
high. I nearly 'bought it' on one
occasion on the Black Sea.

Frank was a good friend in the
early days of the Movement. I
lost track of him when I moved to
the Norwood Branch.

(Frank Cork DFC was last
District Leader of Norwood
Branch. He survived 3 tours of
operations as air-gunner and
wireless officer in Bomber
Command.)

Thomson, Eric Raven Thomson:

Sgt Pilot 149 Sqdn RAF(VR)
Sqdn: NHQ Branch British
Union: only son of BU Director
of Policy Alexander Raven
Thomson and German mother:
Age 20: Killed in action
Mannheim operation where
father detained without charge or
trial in Brixton Goal. Lies in
Collective grave in St. Martens-
Voeren Churchyard, Voeren,
Belgium.

5 August 1941

How They Died

**Sgt. Pilot Eric Alexander Raven
Thomson**

It was for Eric, who at 20 had had
little time to experience the
abandonment of youth, that he,
Captain and pilot of his aircraft,
took off with 11 Wellingtons
from their Mildenhall base, their
target Mannheim, his second
operation on the German town. In
his 3 months on operations he
had felt the fire of ack-ack
defences and marauding night
fighters as his duty took him to
Dutch Rotterdam, French Brest,
German Hanover, and twice
Cologne, Essem and Dusseldorf.
And this was his 13th mission, its
place in history recorded in the
official communiqué, 'One of our
aircraft is missing'.

One ponders at the last fleeting
thoughts of the young Eric. Was
his thoughts in a forming death
wish as he faced hell above and
the fire and hell rained down on
the civilians below, mainly on the
homeland of his German mother?

John Christian writes:

I know not of any London BUF
member still alive who would
recall the young short trousered
school boy Eric and his
occasional presence with his
father at BUF social functions,
just a few years later he had to
fight with his conscience, his
decision leading to his death, but
with his honour upheld. His
German mother Elizabeth
Roentgen who's forbearer was
the physicist Wilhelm Konrad
von Roentgen, discoverer of the
X-ray, had married his father
after World War I when his
father, commissioned in the
British Army at 18, studied in the
United States and Germany.

After father Alexander, named by
Mosley post-war as one of his
most trusted officers, was
detained in 1940 without charge
or trial and subjected to the
psychological torture
interrogation centre at Camp 020,
Ham Common, he was asked by
Eric, in view of what could be
considered divided loyalty, for
his permission to join the RAF.
He would accept his father's
ethical judgement. The answer
was forthright. 'Son, you have a
German mother, but in this
suicidal and unnecessary war it is
too late alas to argue the rights
and wrongs of what might have

Old Comrades



been. You have chosen well and
honour determines that you fight
for Britain, the society in which
you have been reared'. One
ponders if those last words with
his father floated through the
brain of the young Eric as he
fought to control his Wellington
bomber on the way to oblivion,
and of his father in his lonely cell
at Brixton Gaol when informed
of his son's death. His letter to
the Home Secretary asking 'now
are you convinced of my
loyalty?' was ignored. Instead
Herbert Morrison, that
conscientious objector of World
War I who spent his war in an
apple orchard kept father Raven
Thomson in jail for another 3
years.

There are innumerable stories of
dedication, sacrifice and honour
unsung in that sacrificial
Brother's War unconnected with
British Union, the Obituary
columns of the Daily Telegraph
and Times daily bearing witness
of that tragedy. But not for long
as that generation will all have
passed on.

How petty they all are, the
politicians with their 'Keep the
Pound', their 'institutional
racism', 'homosexual rights',
'multiculture society' etc., ad
nauseum while violence reigns
uncontrolled in our towns and
cities. It could be said that we of
the last war generation have
failed in our duty by siring a
decadent society. But given the
historic resilience of our island
race, all is not lost. Deep down is
the quality inspired by duty and
honour in which the Thomson
story is a prime example and
slumbers in the blood and hearts
of our emerging British stock
who in their own way will effect
a renaissance born out of our
past. For we who have not
tomorrows that is enough to
depart with joy of what we did
and finally achieve a true union
of the British, and indeed, the
long dream of the European
peoples.

In Great Britain, salvation has not come, in fourteen years, from the old parties, and it will not come. They are not alive to crisis; they are not organised to meet it; and their mind and psychology are unsuited to it. We cannot compromise with them, for "their ways are not our ways and their gods are not our gods." *Sir Oswald Mosley, The Greater Britain, October 1932.*

Rosetta Sloane

With the death of dear Rosetta it is fitting that I first set the scene of a remarkable couple, she and her husband McNeil who were

childhood 'sweethearts' Mac had joined Mosley in the New Party in Manchester later, joining British Union where he was on the staff at N.H.Q in London. He was also one of the elite 'I' squad defence force. He was again in Manchester in 1940 when he was arrested under 18B regulations. During his transfers to Walton, York and Huyton Concentration Camps he escaped but was recaptured and secured at Peel Camp, Isle of Man. He again tried to escape but was recaptured within 6 feet of freedom in a tunnel dug under the road. Whilst at Peel he and Rosetta lost their 3 year old son in the Liverpool 'Blitz'. Mac was taken under armed guard to the funeral. 'We knew each other before I joined Rosetta in BU' writes Mac

'Not that she did not have a mind of her own. She was always active in BU wherever I was, including the battles in East London as the fast growing Movement fought off the Red mobs. Rosetta taught the local girls to take off their shoes and use the stiletto heel to defend themselves when under attack. In 1940, one of Rosetta's school friends, now a Naval Commander in the North Sea sent her a message 'Get to hell quickly to Eire.' I called a meeting of Liverpool area District Leaders and we met on New Brighton sands. We took no action - how wrong we were!' Both were close of friends of William Joyce but when he broke with British Union and Mosley they could not go along with him. Nevertheless, in loyalty to old friendship, Mac was present of every hearing of Joyce's case and Rosetta took a part in looking after his wife. Later they emigrated to Australia where ultimately Rosetta became well regarded in anti-communist politics. She once 'was clever enough to talk her way through the Berlin Wall as far as Dresden to try and find a family friend. All my life I have been a tough

character but losing Rosetta has really knocked me. You will have been through the same'. A toast to Rosetta on New Years Day when I shall always remember the warm glow down the line as she 'phoned from Australia with talk of the old days and compliments of the season. J.C.

Archie Wilson

We sadly report the death of Arthur (Archie) Wilson 89, one of a large family of Bethnal Green Blackshirts.

Archie joined the North East Bethnal Green branch in early 1936, after hearing 'Mick' Clarke speak at Victoria Park Square. Unceasingly active, Archie was a bugler in the North London Command Band, and was present at all of the major marches marching alongside O.M., in his recorded memoirs he recounts the excitement when the band was ambushed by Red hooligans at

Holbeck Moor Leeds in September 1936. By trade an upholster he lost many jobs due to political victimisation by employers. In 1939 he opened, with the help of his sister-in-law, a hosiery shop in Green Street, opposite the Bethnal Green Branch. Escaping internment although having his home searched, Archie organised the sending of food parcels to 18B political prisoners in Brixton Prison. He will probably be remembered best by many, for the entertainment he provided with his small band the Merrymakers at early Union Movement functions. After the war, he was for many years in business near Hoxton Market, finally retiring in his 70s to live in Sherbourne, Dorset.

A man of strong convictions he never wavered, even in the face of violent hostility, to denounce the forces which he considered were destroying the country he loved.

So long Archie, rest in peace. We send our deepest sympathy to Archie's family.

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BLACKSHIRTS - ON -SEA

A pictorial history of the Mosley Summer Camps 1933 - 1938



With over 200 photographs and full text this book takes a comprehensive look at a long forgotten aspect of twentieth century British history. The Blackshirt summer camps attracted up to 1400 members of the British Union under canvas at any one time.

Published in A4 size this book can be obtained post free from the publishers by sending a cheque or PO for £18.00 (£21.00 overseas)

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COMRADE

Incorporating ACTION and UNION

Newsletter of Friends of OM

'The Spirit Lives... The Rest Will Follow'

No.55

'OLD EUROPE' EDITION

MARCH 2003



THE PATH TO

- GIVING UNPRECEDENTED AID TO MIDDLE EASTERN STATES
- CANCELLING AFRICAN NATIONS DEBTS
- ATTEMPTS TO RAILROAD A MUSLIM COUNTRY INTO THE EXPANDING EUROPEAN UNION
- REINVIGORATING THE ANGLO/US ALLIANCE

ALL ARE PART OF AMERICA'S LONG HELD STRATEGY TO WAGE WAR. PETER KENNEDY WRITES A PENETRATING STUDY OF THIS DANGEROUS AND UNNECESSARY ADVENTURE.

WAR with Iraq? If it has not broken out by the time these words are in print, it will not be for want of trying. And if Britain is indeed the target of Middle Eastern terrorist attacks, the emergence of this diabolical scenario has not been without mindless provocation.

Of all the clichés used to justify the US-British aggressive stance over Iraq, one left unsaid sums up the policy of the White House and Downing Street: "Spoiling got a fight."

From almost the first days of his presidency, George W Bush has been engineering an armed confrontation with Saddam Hussein. And as Afghanistan and the Balkans, Retainer Blair has been capering at his coat tails.

Their pretext? That Saddam is an evil dictator whose weapons of mass destruction will be used against the US or Iraq's neighbours or given to terrorists. So strike now before it is too late. The case fails to convince. If evil is a justification for going to war, then we can write off any chance

of world peace. Instead condition ourselves to perpetual US-led warfare in the cause of the New Globalist Order, with sooner or later, Armageddon blowing the final whistle.

Terrorism? Forget it (Mr Blair does just this when it comes to Northern Ireland). Fifteen of the 9-11 hijackers were Saudis and none Iraqis, and it is Saudi Arabia that has been linked to AL-Qaida. Bin Laden and other religious fanatics view secular Iraq with disdain.

STATE OF THE UNION

As for Iraq's Arab Neighbours, all are opposed to Bush's crusade.

It seems probable that Saddam is concealing weapons forbidden by the UN, but Government and Press propaganda that from the outset these have been targeted on the U.S. and Britain is a lie.

"Weapons of mass destruction", why single out Iraq when China, North Korea, India, Pakistan and Israel are members of the WMD Club? And how come this sudden over-riding obsession with the

WAR

legitimacy of UN resolutions, when the habitual US response to the long chain of UN resolutions on Israel's aggression, and suppression of the wretched, bullied Palestinians, is the veto and yet more support, diplomatic, military and financial, for the aggressor nation?

As to Iraq's possession of such weapons, the rational response is the nuclear deterrent, the same card that for four decades arguably kept the peace between Nato and the Soviet block. Why should Iraq be an exception?

But rather like the Queen's retort in Alice, "sentence first, verdict

afterwards." Bush, with a British Prime Minister in dependable tow have been straining to find a plausible casus to underpin their belli.

And the more elusive the search, the more frantic and belligerent Bush and his advisors and lever-pullers. "Blessed are the Warmongers" is the text which "Dubya" and his grinning gopher, the Right Rev. President Tony Blair have been leading their nations into war wholly against the interests and the clearly expressed wishes of the majority of their fellow citizens.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2



A SOLDIER OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR MAKES HIS PROTEST IN 1936

DÉ
JÀ
VU

"All wars are good to the Labour Party on three conditions:

First, that the war shall not be in the interest of Britain;

Second, that our troops have no arms with which to fight;

Third, that Labour leaders are not included among the troops."

Mosley, June 1936.

THE PATH TO WAR CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

A THREAT TO WHOM?

On the central issue – the ONLY issue one in our view – there is not the slightest hard evidence that Iraq threatened either the USA or Britain, though it is certainly the case that Bush and Blair's sabre rattling is calculated ultimately to do so, a self-fulfilling prophesy that the newspapers of those transatlantics Rupert Murdoch and Conrad Black play up in cynical furtherance of their New World Order agenda. (It was the Sun which headlined Jill Dando's possible killer, then unknown, as one of Saddam's agents!).

Most opponents of an Iraqi war claim it is being waged in the interests of the US oil conglomerates, and their pursuit of regional hegemony. Assuredly so, "the stink of oil" as Mosley once put it in another international context.

But these interests needless to say, are not the same as those of the ordinary American people. Quite the reverse. But aside from oil and the shadowy New World Order imperialism, there is a third factor in the roll to war with Iraq: the perceived interest of Israel and the influence on US Middle East policy of the massive and coercive pro-Israeli lobby inside American power circles.

But you will have read little of this in the British media, though given the potential cost in British lives and resources of armed intervention, to say nothing of the

ramifications on British interests here and throughout the Middle East, it might merit just a little attention. Chancellor Brown boasts that there will be no shortage of money to wage a war. Money for war but not for the NHS, or transport, or schools. Money to police the world but not the streets of London, Bradford or Barnstable.

And when Bush-Blair have finished bombing Iraq, we can be sure there will be yet more asylum seekers flooding to this overcrowded, resentful island joining those who followed their bombing and rocketing of the Balkans and Afghanistan.

And given all these factors, it might have been hoped that the Path to War would have run the gauntlet of British Parliamentary debate and cross examination. Certainly the 80 per cent of the British people who oppose war (more than 40 per cent absolutely so) would have hoped their views would have a powerful representation inside Parliament. But "Who is Listening to Us?" Aside from a few independent voices the Commons has proved itself to share the same function in relation to Tony Blair and the latter to President Bush – a poodle. So much for the "democracy" that Bush and Blair invoke in their war rhetoric.

As to the pathetic remnant of what was once known as the Conservative Party, this is even more gung ho than the Government, with that Blue Joke in a Grey Suit, Ian Duncan Smith

eager to do the White House's bidding with greater alacrity than Bambi Blair himself. The Tories give their support to the lie that the opposition to war is confined to far lefties, hairy peaceniks and their ilk, when in truth it embraces the majority of British people, by far the greater path motivated by reason, a keen sense of national interest, and a disgust at being railroaded.

When the latest piece of Government disinformation was exposed as a falsehood, the Tories attacked ministers, not for being party to a lie, but because the affair had undermined hopes of increasing public support for war!

The Conservatives are now reduced to a group that believes in little more than the global free market and servility to the White House and US hegemony. They are a busted flush and their deserved fate will be to be buried under the ashes of their abandoned principles. "Old Europe" was Donald Rumsfeld's sneering description of the German and French leaders coolness to this headlong rush into madness – a jibe gleefully taken up by the Tory and Murdoch Press.

Well better Old Europe than Adolescent Beltway America. And better peace in the British interest than war in the service of others.

Postscript A DAY IN THE PARK SATURDAY AUGUST 1ST. 1931.

Thanks to our readers we are able to add some extra facts to Guy Mansell's article published in Comrade issue 54.

Apart from extra buses being laid on to help the public get to the Gala, 17 special trains were also chartered.

On the same day as the New Party Gala at Renishaw Park the rival attraction was the 'Battle of the Roses', cricket match. This annual event attracted 17 000 spectators as against Mosley's 40000.

When the lucky programme winner failed to claim the prize of a new car it was donated to the Children's Seaside Holiday Fund. They in turn organised a prize draw. The lucky ticket was drawn on the stage of the Sheffield Hippodrome raising £1500 for the charity. The delighted winner drove the new Morris Minor directly off the stage.

Additional information is always welcome to help fill in the many gaps in the 'Mosley' story.

F.O.M.

The ever popular Friends of Mosley dinners and socials go on. The object; to reaffirm our commitment to Sir Oswald Mosley and his outstanding contribution to the European debate. It's also a chance for seasoned campaigners to meet up again and to be introduced to the next generation who have embraced our cause. We raise our glass with pride to the men and women who gave so much to a belief. We also honour Sir Oswald Mosley and Lady Diana for their sacrifice on our behalf. After a much appreciated speech by Dan Harmston it was a delightful surprise for veteran member Bill Harris to read his poem 'The Man Who Gave Us Hope'

The Man Who Gave Us Hope

1) It was in the nineteen-thirties, with so much poverty, there was so much unemployment, came an Englishman who had a remedy.

Verse

This man gave hope to millions, his message was so plain: he showed us how this land of ours could be great again.

2) In Hackney and Shoreditch, in Manchester and Brum, through the length and breadth of Britain, they followed him and marched behind his drum.

Repeat Verse

3) As a soldier in the trenches, as an airman in his 'plane, he had vowed the men of Europe would never, never fight such wars again.

Repeat Verse

4) So they locked him up in prison, with neither trial nor charge. 'Cause he wanted peace with Germany, they said 'we cannot leave such men at large.'

Repeat Verse

5) But his spirit wasn't broken, and, on the streets once more, he proclaimed his 'vision splendid' of great United Europe, free from war

Repeat Verse

A fitting end to a well organised and professionally arranged evening. We thank everyone present together with absent friends who sent good wishes. A considerable sum of money was raised to help us continue the work of F.O.M.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

'Congratulations' to double agent George Blake on the occasion of his 80th birthday. Recruited while a prisoner of war in North Korea he went on to betray hundreds of British Secret Service agents. He now lives a comfortable life in a spacious Moscow flat and a country Dacha complete with Ida, his Russian wife. His one regret seems to be having to give up skiing because of his advancing years!

Given a 42 year jail sentence in 1961. He escaped five years later from Wormwood Scrubs. A contemporary of Burgess, Maclean, Philby, Blunt and Cairncross he still contends that giving the West nuclear secrets to the Russians helped prevent a Third World War.

With such a warm relationship between our own dear New Labour Leader and Valadimir Putin is it not about time he asked

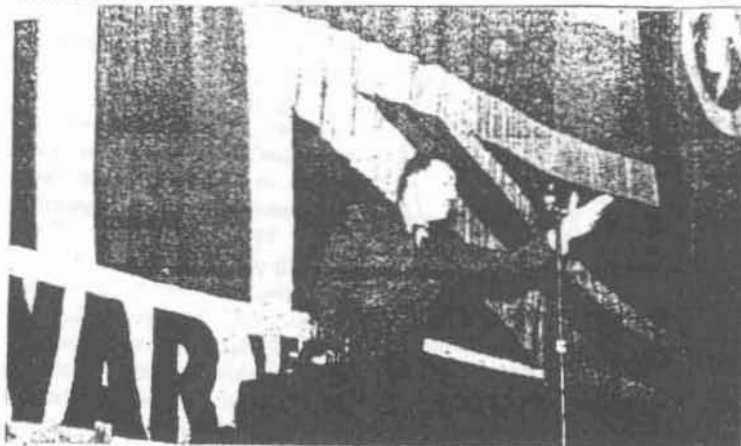
for this traitor to be extradited to this country to serve out his remaining sentence.

At least a sense of justice would be gained by those sons and daughters who never grew-up beside a proud parent thanks to Blake.

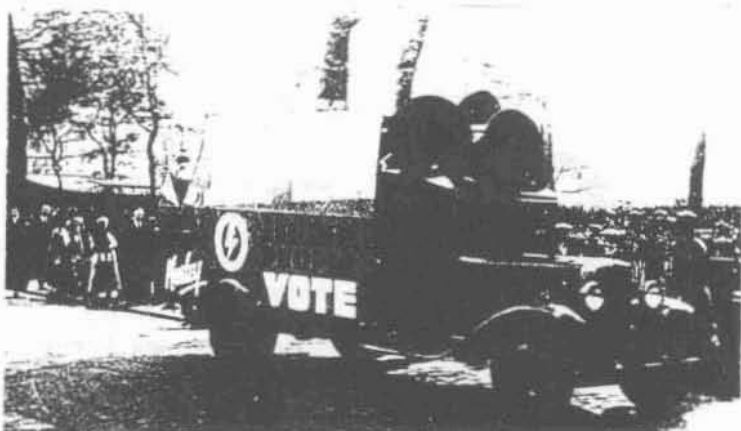
Never forget, that it is said a sentence of 42 years reflected the number of agents who met their deaths because of this traitorous man.

European Socialism Automation Problem and Power Wagner and Shaw

All three booklets written by Sir Oswald Mosley are original reprints from articles first published in The European. Available in one lot £3.00 post free. Please make cheques payable to F.O.M. Send to BCM/FOM, London, WC1N 3XX.



THE PEOPLE SPOKE



BRITISH UNION LOUD SPEAKER VANS TOUR THE COUNTRY CALLING FOR A VOTE FOR PEACE



MOSLEY WITH HIS EXPERIENCES OF THE BATTLEFIELDS GAVE A VOICE TO THE BRITISH PEOPLE WHO WERE OPPOSED TO A SECOND ROUND OF BLOODLETING BECAUSE OF A SUPPOSED THREAT TO THE NATION.

HIS FAILURE AGAINST OVERWHELMING ODDS MEANT MILLIONS OF LOST LIVES, THE BREAK UP OF EMPIRE AND THE DECLINE OF A ONCE PROUD NATION



'HANDS UP FOR PEACE' A BRITISH UNION MEETING IN LIMEHOUSE GIVES ITS ANSWER



ONE OF MANY WALLS THAT CARRIED THE BRITISH UNION MESSAGE IN 1939

EUPHORION

"THE MOSLEYS' " PUBLISHING HOUSE BORN OUT OF NECESSITY

By Adrian Pearce

Part two of the remarkable post-war enterprise that brought back into circulation a number of treasured classics together with the launching of new writers. Including Hans Ulrich Rudel's classic, *Stuka Pilot*.



THE STRIKING BOOK COVER OF STUKA PILOT THAT HELPED MAKE IT A CONSISTENT BEST SELLER

By the early 1950's restrictions on the supply of printing paper had been eased. Euphorion, the Mosleys' publishing house, originally conceived to secure an adequate supply of paper for Sir Oswald's seminal post-war book *The Alternative* was flourishing. With over a dozen books successfully launched, a change of emphasis took place. Instead of fledgling novelists, classic reprints and translations, a more contemporary approach was adopted. Sven Hedin's *German Diary* was followed by Hans Grimm's *Answer of A German* 'a necessary study to all those who would understand the German standpoint'. This led on in 1952 to *Stuka Pilot*. The book had failed to find a publisher at home because of blind prejudice by the governing powers. No one wanted a genuine hero associated with the old regime to emerge with the truth. The author, Hans Ulrich Rudel was the most decorated officer in the German Air Force. The Mosleys reasoned that the time was ripe to launch a counter balance to the successful run of books featuring Britons at War. *The Wooden Horse*, *Cockleshell Heroes*, *The Dambusters* and *Reach For The Sky*. All had enjoyed phenomenal sales, why shouldn't a book describing equally heroic deeds from a German perspective not do as well?



HANS ULRICH RUDEL WEARING HIS DECORATION

Born in Silesia in 1916, Hans Ulrich Rudel strove and won against the odds to become a pilot in the pre-war fledgling air force. His innovative aviation skills enabled him, by the age of 28, to become Wing Commander of the Luftwaffe. He flew 2530 operations, mainly on the Russian Front, becoming the most decorated pilot in the entire German Air Force. As Lady Mosley commented "His exploits read like something out of an *Eagle* comic" – only these were real acts of heroism. Sinking a Russian Battleship, a 2000lb bomb, dropped in Kronstadt Harbour. His 'speciality' dive bombing Russian tanks. He notched up over 500 'kills'. On February 9th 1945 Rudel's luck nearly ran out. When the Russians were just 50 miles from Berlin he dive bombed a group of Russian tanks. Returning fire caught his JU 87 shattering his leg. Managing to crash land he woke up in a forward dressing station five miles behind the front to be told his right leg had been amputated. Taken on the Reichsmarchall's insistence back



RUDEL IN THE ZOO BUNKER HOSPITAL, RECOVERING FROM HIS INJURIES



to the bomb-proof Zoo bunker hospital in Berlin Rudel said "I solemnly declare that I will walk again in six weeks time and fly". This heroic airman dedicated to serving his country in time of war was decorated with the Knights Cross of the Iron Cross, with golden oak leaves, sword and diamonds, a unique award devised for his bravery. On Easter Eve 1945, with a wound far from healed he took to the sky in the last Wagnerian weeks of the war.



BRITISH AIR ACE: DOUGLAS BADER

With the foreword written by the legless British air ace Douglas Bader, *Stuka Pilot* was an instant best seller. First published in June 1952 it went into reprint by September. Twice in 1953 and again in 1954 and 1955. An eye catching feature was the dust jacket that really captured the mood of the book. Mainstream publishers then took an interest, with Corgi publishing a paperback in 1957. After that it became a sensation in America. Shortly before he died on December 18th 1982. Rudel told



RUDEL TOGETHER WITH OTHER OFFICERS RECEIVE DECORATIONS FROM THEIR COMMANDER ADOLF HITLER

Lady Mosley that sales of *Stuka Pilot* in the U.S. had reached two million copies.

A NEW VENTURE

A natural progression from all this literary output, was the launch in March 1953, of *The European*, a monthly magazine edited by Diana Mosley. The strength of this publication lay in its format and contributors. Ezra Pound, Roy Macgregor-Hastie, Jorian Jenks, Desmond Stewart, John Haylock, Michel Mohrt, Raven Thomson, Alan Neame, Richard Aldington and Henry Williamson.

Another breakthrough was its acceptance by the all powerful magazine wholesalers, resulting in it being displayed in newsagents and more importantly, on station bookstalls all over Britain. Apart from signed articles, Sir Oswald contributed a monthly analysis on current affairs under the title 'European' and Diana wrote a perceptive and astute diary often running to several pages. It ran for 72 issues only ceasing when all resources were focused on Mosley's 1959 North Kensington election bid. Scaled down, Euphorion still continued with *Mosley Policy and Debate* in 1954. *Mosley The Facts* in 1957 (produced on its own printing press) and *Europe Faith and Plan* in 1958. This last publication was also translated into French, Italian and German.

A POLITICAL DIMENSION

Because of the common affinity with war-time flying and the concept of *Europe A Nation*, Rudel became a close friend of the Mosleys. During a visit to Britain in 1956, Sir Oswald invited him to speak to Union Movement members in East London. Here Rudel underlined the concept of European Union and the coming together of old adversaries. Later Rudel was

invited to be the chief speaker at a European Rally that Mosley was launching at the Seymour Hall on Tuesday 6th December 1960. As a leading speaker of the German Reichs Party he agreed to attend. First the hall became 'unavailable' at eight days notice. After transferring the booking to Kensington Town Hall, the Government openly stepped in and banned Rudel from entering the country. At this point Mosley cancelled the rally, as it was obvious that continuing would invite yet more government inspired disruption against many other invited European guests. Mosley was on the march and both Labour and Conservative Parties conspired to stop his advance. Commenting at an Action Dinner on Wednesday December 7th 1960 Mosley said "Colonel Rudel was refused entry to this country. Why?—no one had suggested or even could suggest that he had committed war crimes or even any crime. His only crime was heroism that was enough to secure his exclusion. This incident was a measure of the panic into which present (Conservative) Government was thrown by the Union. To impede this they were ready to make a public and obvious farce of all their vaunted principles of free speech. The ignominy and absurdity of



RUDEL SPEAKING AT A UNION MOVEMENT MEETING

their position was a measure of the fear evoked by the advance of the new Europe in those who betrayed the old Europe".

CAT AND MOUSE GAMES

An interesting coda to the story of Han Ulrich Rudel was played out at London Airport on January 8th 1966. For the first time Comrade is able to reveal the details, exclusively.

En-route from Germany to Buenos Aires, it was necessary for Rudel to make a connection at L.A.P. A gap of two and a half hours between arrival and departure meant he needed to stay in the international transit lounge, thus keeping to the terms of the British Government banning order. It was then announced that the ongoing flight by Aerolineas Argentinas was

delayed by ten hours. Passengers were invited to stay at a nearby airport hotel until called. Rudel explained his position and opted to stay in the transit lounge thus avoiding a technical entry into the country. After the remaining transit passengers had been taken to the hotel Rudel was told the police wanted to see him so he went to the barrier. No official arrived so after forty-five minutes he returned to the lounge. Forty-five minutes later, three plain clothed officials came and insisted he must be taken to a detention room but first of all he must go through customs control. Despite his baggage clearly labelled Munich to Buenos Aires he was forced against his will to enter this country. After a detailed rummage and extensive

questioning, he finally boarded his international flight at 3am on January 9th.

Let no one be fooled. This microcosm of the duplicitous way Government and opposition hang together, is nothing compared with the pressures Sir Oswald Mosley had to suffer over a lifetime of trying to wake up Britain. We honour his memory and tenacious spirit to unite Europe.

HE LED ... WE FOLLOW

EUPHORION FOR THE BIBLIOPHILE

Regrettably, but not surprisingly, all the Euphorion titles are long out of print. The diminishing number of second hand bookshops may reward the persistent browser. Also. Surfing the internet has brought to light some copies. Friends of Mosley is fortunate to be able to offer a small number of original copies of Desmond Stewart's translation of the Phaedo.

Dating from 1949 these copies of Plato complete with dust jackets must be described as 'dusty', a few 'grubby' because of their rarity we feel justified in distributing them. The price including postage is £3.00 each. Cheques payable to F.O.M. Should we run out of copies your cheque will be returned. Send to BCM/FOM, London, WC1N 3XX.

Another book under the Euphorion imprint was 'Mosley Policy and Debate' a compendium of Sir Oswald Mosley's writing from 'The European'. Again we are able to offer copies of the original printing (not later reprints). These have also lost their first bloom but remain in a reasonable condition. We offer these for £3.00 each, post free. Details as above. Finally the F.O.M. eight page publication of Sir Oswald Mosley's preface to Faust is still available at £1.00, again post free.

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1952

THE MEMOIRS OF ALCIBIADES

Desmond Stewart

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STUKA PILOT Hans Ulrich Rudel

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1957

MOSLEY THE FACTS

(Euphorion distribution)

1958

EUROPE FAITH AND PLAN

By Sir Oswald Mosley

Comrade has proved itself, as a perfect way of keeping old comrades in touch with each other. There is nothing more heart-warming than finding a friend of long ago. The new, larger Comrade is very welcome to all us old Union Movement members, and I feel sure it will be a great success.

Diana Mosley, Paris 2002.

House of Infamy

Together with hundreds of other 18B detainees, Alexander Raven Thomson was initially interned in Brixton Prison. While many quickly moved on to other detention centres, Raven remained, presumably because of his pre-war position as Director of Policy in the British Union. It was clear that the authorities thought they had caught a big fish. He was to remain in custody without charge or trial for over four and a half years and was one of the last five 18B detainees to be released. He emerged a broken man. Partially recovered he became the general secretary of Union Movement and edited its weekly paper *Union*. He died prematurely aged 54 in October 1955.

He is a person deeply revered as one of Mosley's most steadfast followers and even more importantly today as a key figure on policy development in both British Union and Union Movement.

In Issue 19 dated June 19th 1948 of *Union*, he wrote on one aspect of his detention; his MI5 interrogation at the notorious Latchmere House, Ham Common where dozens of top BU officials were sent for 'debriefing'.

With the publication of the official history of this establishment, reviewed in the last issue of *Comrade* it is fitting to read a first hand account of the secret world of MI5 by a man who experienced its "hospitality".

STATE OF MENACE

It was early in August, 1940, that I and several other British Union members were awakened at Brixton Prison with the cry: "Get up, you're going out" – a familiar grim warders' joke, which merely meant we were to be transferred like many others to another prison. To our surprise, however, we were handed over with all our belongings in the prison courtyard to a military escort, who duly signed for our "bodies" in the prison register. Packed into an army van we were driven through Richmond Park to Ham Common, where we found a large house and outbuildings completely surrounded by a double fence of barbed wire with patrolling guards carrying fixed bayonets.

Here we were locked up separately in tiny cells, doors were not only locked but padlocked, and we were only allowed to emerge for exercise in two half-hourly periods, morning and afternoon, on the lawn of the country house, surrounded by barbed wire and menaced by guards with revolvers who forbade any conversation whatsoever. Each prisoner had to walk by himself and was never given an opportunity at any time to speak to any other. Furthermore, no visits were allowed and it was weeks before relatives were given any information as to where we had gone.

Meanwhile, our strength declined on the extremely meagre diet served up three times a day. Burly, and apparently moronic, MI5 officers made rounds late at night and we were not permitted to go to bed, until they had

checked us up, even if this meant sitting in the dark when these gentlemen failed to turn up until after "Lights Out" which quite frequently happened.

Later some of us, including myself, were transferred to much larger rooms in the main building. There, to our great surprise, came rattling on the door, and one of our colleagues would be ushered in by a guard, who told us we would have a quarter of an hour's "association". He would then leave us alone together and lock the door behind him.

EAVESDROPPING

We never actually located the microphones though all of us made exhaustive searches, discovered false walls and suspicious ventilators. In any case, we had nothing to hide, the unfortunate officers listening at the other end of the wire, must have got burning ears, rather than the information about mythical arms dumps and so forth, which they no doubt hoped to hear. In every case these sessions, in the absence of all information from the outside world, became means of expressing contempt for the treatment we were receiving, and thus no very edifying material for MI5 ears.

Week after dreary week passed. Some of us were pulled from our beds in the middle of the night, brought before a secret tribunal of men sitting at a table behind glaring lights. None of us were actually subjected to violence, though all usual tricks of alleged confessions by others were used, and the atmosphere of menace was continuously maintained. **Meanwhile we were becoming aware of strange happenings**



ALEXANDER RAVEN THOMSON: A MAN WHO NEVER LOST HIS FAITH

elsewhere in the building where aliens were detained. One of us overheard loud menacing talk in which the word "hanging" was frequently repeated. I was later returned to a small cell in what was called the "hospital annexe" was kept awake the greater part of one night by the broken-hearted sobbing of one little man, who was roughly thrown into the corner of the next cell, and seemed for hours to make no attempt to undress or get to bed.

CONDITIONS IMPROVE

By this time the Blitz on London had begun, and we heard guns firing and bombs falling, some of them close nearby. This considerably added to the strain we were suffering, as we had a shrewd suspicion what would happen to us in the hands of such captors, if the German invasion were to come. However, again to our great surprise, conditions began to improve. Letters were delivered. A doctor made his appearance at long last and improved our diet on receipt of strong protests. Even newspapers were permitted, in which we read for the first time of the "Battle of Britain".

It was only later that we learned that news of our plight had reached Brixton, and Mosley had instituted legal proceedings for our release from these inhuman conditions. After five weeks I was at last given a rather hurried and shamefaced "interrogation" by one officer and a woman secretary, the main point of which seemed to be to find out what I knew of the "Loch Lomond" wireless station, which several B.U. members had been given long terms of imprisonment on the grounds that it was operating from Germany, according to MI5 information. Yet my interrogation was directed to finding out whether we were operating it in this country. Someone must have been lying, and one of our

members died before he finished serving his severe sentence.

Next day I was returned to Brixton, where I told the astonished Governor it was like coming home after Ham Common. I had lost two stones in weight, so that my friends could scarcely recognise me, but my delight to be once more with my old comrades soon restored my spirits. After experiencing Ham Common, Brixton Prison seemed a home from home, despite the long ordeal of the Blitz with warders' wives and children housed in sandbagged cells beneath our unprotected ones and fierce competition for the cell below Mosley's which was held to be the safest place in all London. We might have slept more soundly had we shared this touching belief in the accuracy of Herman Goering's bombers.

BRUTAL CALLOUSNESS

Our whole experience of Ham Common was one of crass stupidity and brutal callousness by officers, who with one single exception gave the impression of possessing no intelligence of any sort. To see such men handling six shooter revolvers, they had obviously never seen in their lives before did not improve the state of our nerves. The whole proceeding with its childish attempts to overhear the few private conversations we were permitted, left us with a lasting contempt for anything to do with "Military Intelligence". No doubt complete isolation, denial of association and a prolonged low diet was calculated to break our spirit. As it was, not a single man broke down in any way, and the whole theatrical display merely exposed the incapacity of men who would never have had any intelligence to find out anything, even if there had been something to find out. Ham Common was the beginning of a system of sadistic incompetence which is now becoming exposed to the world in all its moronic brutality.

Documentation relating to Raven Thomson does survive in the P.R.O. but look in vain for his time at Ham Common. All the relevant pages have obviously been weeded prior to release.

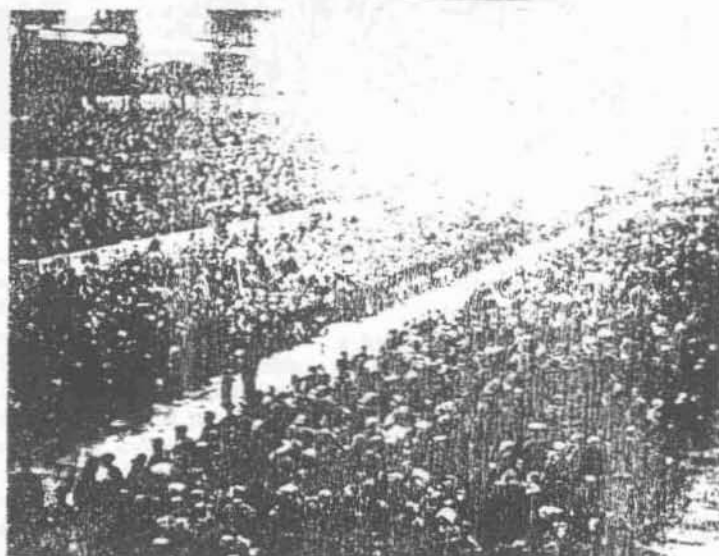
To read more about Ham Common but not about B.U. members as their months of deprivation have also been airbrushed out of the official history read *Camp 020* by Lt. Col. R.W.S. Stephens ISBN 1-903365008-2 Public Records Office. £19.99.

MOSLEY'S PATRIOTS OR MOSCOWS PARAMILITARIES

WIRE-CUTTERS AND RAZORS

By Aubrey Sedgmore

William Woodruff's recent book *Beyond Nab End* has been praised for its tales of pre-war East London youth.



OLYMPIA 7TH JUNE 1934. A 15000 STRONG SEATED AUDIENCE AWAIT THE START OF THE MOMENTOUS MEETING

In June 1934, the writer got into Mosley's Olympia meeting on a forged ticket with his comrade Peter Levine, who went 'for a fight' (and got one). Outside the hall a noisy communist crowd assaulted policemen. Inside, he says 'knuckle-dusters, razors and iron bars' were used, without making clear that these belonged not to the stewards but to Stalin's foreign foot-soldiers who organised that criminal attack on free speech and assembly. The following year Levine invited him to a more secretive meeting. This was a showing of a

film made in Russia to provide detailed instructions on how to overthrow the British government – subverting our armed services, and bringing communications, gas, electricity, docks, railways and water supplies to a standstill. 'One could wreak havoc with wire-cutters and a spanner.' This time Stalin's servants sneaked out of the building in 'ones and twos' – keeping an eye out for any policeman. Professor Woodruff admits that on the first occasion Mosley called for 'a renewal of British life' and was 'one of the most



THE LEADER EXAMINES SOME OF THE 'SOUVENIRS' COLLECTED FROM THE REDS AT OLYMPIA. HE IS HOLDING A HORSE'S CURRY COMB, WITH A STRAP TO ALLOW ITS USE AS A KNUCKLE-DUSTER. IN HIS OTHER HAND A THICK WOOLLEN SOCK FILLED WITH BROKEN GLASS. SUNDRY ITEMS ON THE TABLE INCLUDE A SMALL HATCHETT, IRON BOLTS, A SHOEMAKERS AWL THE LID OF A TIN WITH A SERRATED EDGE TOGETHER WITH A SELECTION OF COSHES.

striking figures' seen on a platform. He admits that the second occasion was a seditious gathering for which he could have gone to prison. British patriotism or Soviet treason, then, was the choice. How much better life would be today if people like the good

professor, instead of lapping up the lying propaganda from a Kremlin dictatorship which murdered millions and eventually collapsed, had been allowed to listen properly to Mosley's practical proposals for peace and prosperity. That is the real moral of this artless story.



HOSPITALISED BLACKSHIRTS WHO, WITH ONLY THEIR FISTS AS DEFENCE SUSTAINED MANY SERIOUS INJURIES FROM THE 'TOOLED-UP' COWARDLY REDS

The New Party's Birmingham Rag Market meeting is often referred to by writers of the Mosley years. The story is usually accompanied by a photograph of Mosley and his supporters surrounded by a sea of upturned chairs. It is invariably used as a metaphor for 'Mosley violence'. Thanks to contemporary accounts, a true representation of the evening's events and subsequent court case can be told.

EVERY PICTURE TELLS A STORY

By Guy Mansell

In the 1931 General Election, Mosley embarked on a punishing schedule of major venue meetings in support of his twenty four New Party candidates.

In addition, Lady Cynthia Mosley, the sitting Labour Party member for Stoke, decided to stand down at the forthcoming election because of her indifferent health. Having tested himself in the 1918 election by winning a seat away from his ancestral roots, Mosley decided to contest the 'family' seat. His reasons being "My family connections extend well over a hundred years. Both my Grandfather and Great-Great Grandfather were members for Stoke which was then in the North Stafford Division".

TROUBLE AHEAD

Because of his defection from the Labour Party, Mosley was a natural target for abuse and violence from those who saw his action as betrayal. It was against this background the New Party's Birmingham meeting was held on Sunday October 18th. Fifteen thousand people crowded into the Bromsgrove Street end of the huge Rag Market covered area. At 7.30pm the meeting began peacefully enough, with just a few hecklers. Mosley recalled his time as a Labour minister drawing up plans to tackle the serious unemployment problem. "I was determined that the pledges we gave to the workers should be fulfilled and I worked out detailed plans to deal with unemployment, but they refused to carry out my plan or any other plan at all. So I decided not to go on drawing £2000 a year for doing nothing. We cannot have socialism in our time without revolution and what is the use of a Labour government telling the workers his grandchildren will be alright when he does not know where his next meal is coming from. If my party is returned to power I would reform Parliament so that from being a talk-shop it would become a work-shop. We must brush the

cobwebs off this musty institution. The Labour men have been content to sit in Parliament with fat jobs like rabbits in front of a snake ... and there they sat until the snake turned into a crisis and the rabbit was swallowed".

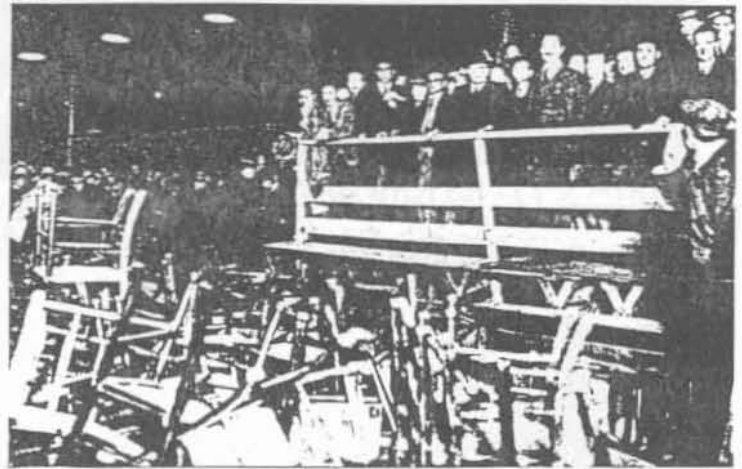
VOTE FOR



EIR OSWALD
MOSLEY



CHARACTERISATIONS
DURING THE ELECTION



BIRMINGHAM RAG MARKET NEW PARTY MEETING. MOSLEY AND HIS SUPPORTERS POSE FOR WHAT BECAME A MISINTERPRETED PICTURE

Mosley then mentioned Arthur Henderson, the leader of the Labour Party which provoked a cheer. "Not many cheers for him I see, we want a louder one for him". A slightly louder cheer was heard. "Not such a cheer as you gave MacDonald at the last election, come on Labour, work up the enthusiasm".

DISRUPTION

The trouble started when the loudspeaker system failed. It was soon established that the wires had been cut. Repaired almost immediately Sir Oswald

continued with his speech. Again the system failed so Mosley turned to speak directly to one side of the audience. This brought cries from the other side "Don't you know we are here?" With interruptions growing and chairs being thrown in all directions, Mosley vaulted over the front of the platform and walked towards the group of agitators saying "We want free speech and not a free fight. Be sporting and give us a fair hearing". At this point one of the group seized a chair and raised it



ADDRESSING THE AUDIENCE PRIOR TO THE
DISTURBANCE

to strike Sir Oswald. Mosley grabbed him by the arm and pushed him backwards. Returning to the platform the (in)famous photograph was taken. Soon after the group started to sing the Red Flag being countered by Mosley and his supporters with Land of Hope and Glory. A number of police officers then entered the hall advising Sir Oswald that they had a police car waiting to whisk him away. Refusing the offer, Mosley said he preferred to walk to his hotel. By this time, Peter Howard, a New Party candidate was bleeding profusely from a laceration to his temple. B.E. Kendrick regional secretary of the New Party was unconscious having been hit by a bottle. Superintendent Harrison together with Police Inspector Bluer were convinced that Mosley's life was in danger and they would "sooner lock up Sir Oswald if he did not leave the hall". Mosley still refused the police car but eventually consented to leave walking, as he intended, without further incident to his hotel. Later he told a reporter "It was the finest meeting I have ever addressed in Birmingham. There were only two or three hundred organised hooligans who endeavoured to break up the meeting. We made a stand for free speech. We broke up the meeting ourselves rather than have it broken up".

AFTERMATH

The next morning the Stipendiary at Birmingham Police Court granted summons against Sir Oswald Mosley for alleged assault on Richard Thomas Cornwall and Walter Jennings. After a delayed hearing because of the imminent general election, the charges were heard on

Tuesday November 10th 1931 in Birmingham's Victoria Courts. Sir Oswald pleaded Not Guilty to blacking a man's eye and kicking his shins. Striking another in the chest and waving a truncheon at the crowd, inviting them to "try their luck". The defence urged that the summons were put-up jobs to injure Sir Oswald politically. Mr J.F.R. Richie responding for the complainants stated that Mosley struck Cornwall a violent blow on the

right foot. It was physically impossible for me to do so without inflicting pain upon myself. My right leg is an inch and a half shorter than the left because of a flying accident in the first World War. In fact it stopped me fencing for fifteen years. My stewards, mostly local men, did carry truncheons because at a meeting in Glasgow, we were attacked with razors but we did not use them (truncheons) in Birmingham". Mr St. John

VOX POPULI?

Lloyd George, Baldwin, Snowden, Clynes, Henderson, MacDonald were all given wireless time by the B.B.C. to make political broadcasts during the 1931 General Election. When the New Party applied to be given equal facilities the reply was "Sir Oswald Mosley did not represent enough people to warrant his being given time at the microphone". Not to be outdone Mosley attempted to buy time from Radio Paris, a commercial station beaming its programmes to the U.K. Again he was refused. He then tried other continental stations all without success. The British Establishment, be it left or right had very quickly learned the art of suppression of new ideas and policies. A convenient system still operative today.

chest which knocked him over. The other complainant, Jennings, was thrown towards Sir Oswald who punched him in the eye and kicked him in the shins. The stipendiary, Lord Ilkeston, then asked to hear Sir Oswald's evidence. In the witness box Mosley said "I had addressed fifty meetings before Birmingham, without major disturbance but there was a great deal of feeling manifested against me in the city". Further questioned on whether he had heard any violent language he replied "Just the usual small coinage of the Labour Party Twister, Traitor and Judas". Continuing he said "We have stewards but no personal bodyguard. I have been to many meetings quite alone. I did not kick anyone, I could not with my

Hutchinson representing the defence then questioned Cornwall who had declared that Sir Oswald punched him with his right hand. It was pointed out that Sir Oswald was a trained boxer and usually hit with his left hand. The complainants were then asked what was Sir Oswald's provocative attitude? "He had a grin on his face which seemed to mean trouble" (laughter) Mr Hutchinson rejoined "Do you say that these gallant thirty on a platform challenged 15000 people to attack them? It was obvious that the interrupters were a highly organised group that were responsible for the whole trouble". The magistrate then intimated he did not wish to hear any more evidence for the defence. He was satisfied "that Sir Oswald had done nothing



EVEN THE CANDIDATE FOR STOKE WAS NOT ADVERSE TO THE CLASSIC PHOTO OPPORTUNITY

more than he was entitled to do". Both summons were dismissed.

A LEARNING CURVE

The whole experience was one that Sir Oswald took to heart. Because of the ineffectual response of successive Governments to attacks on free speech, he knew he had to take action against those forces of evil if he was ever to get his policies through to the public. It was a struggle that took years to win but was finally successful through his sheer determination and the support of his brave followers in both pre and post-war campaigns.

"Let all things be discussed and let truth prevail"

Sir Oswald Mosley: March 1953

In the world of spin, selective press briefings and the failure of Members of Parliament to take up offers of press, radio and T.V. interviews unless it suits them, is it possible to get your counter message across? The answer is a qualified yes. Despite a stranglehold on all the media outlets the internet and desktop publishing has provided a voice to the underdog. But, beware. 'They' don't like it. In the guise of public interest and protection, restrictions are being introduced to which the public will rightly endorse. These repressive measures used in a wider contest away from their original purpose will limit freedom of expression. **BEWARE.**

However potent the message, a simple act of acquiring a pot of whitewash and brush could in days of yore effectively got your message across. Why even some pre-World War Two daubings seem to have a new life today.

BRITONS-FIGHT-FOR-BRITAIN-ONLY

From its formation on 1st October, 1932 the interest and support shown by the senior officers of the British Union of Fascists in its sporting and recreational activities was to play a major role in both the Movement's strength and development.

BRITISH UNION SPORTS AND SOCIAL CLUBS

By John Anderson

Even in the cramped conditions of the first National Headquarters then at 1, Great Smith Street, Westminster, space was secured for a gymnasium, canteen and social club. But it was not until the move in August 1933 to the former 'Whitelands' Teacher Training College at 33, Kings Road, Chelsea, renamed the 'Black House', did the Movement have the opportunity to expand on these facilities.



ERIC HAMILTON PIERCY
WHO ORGANISED THE
BLACK HOUSE GYMNASIUM

DEFENCE FORCE TAKES

THE LEAD

Under the direction of Eric Hamilton Piercy, the Officer Commanding, Defence Force Control a fully furnished gymnasium was located on the ground floor in the west wing of this impressive building. Here during the day staff from the Defence Force had sole access for training and fitness, however, a typical evening would see fencing, boxing, ju-jitsu available under expert tuition for all the 'blackshirt' members.

By January 1934 the increase in BUF membership forced a total reorganisation of headquarters. The gymnasium was transferred to the then unused former chapel, thus allowing the registry, under its Director Major George Tabor access to all the accommodation on the ground floor. However, by March the gymnasium was on the move again, transferring back to the west wing, but now located in the Defence Force Assembly Room. This new gymnasium was fully fitted with horizontal bars, tumblers, parallel bars, vaulting house and also stored the fencing

and boxing outfits. Women were equally welcome to use the facilities. Here the gymnasium would remain until the 'Black House' closed in June 1935.

PROVINCIAL CLUBS

Not to be outdone the provinces also had first rate sporting and social facilities. Under the command of the various Area Administration staff gymnasiums and club rooms were located in Birmingham, Cardiff, Edinburgh, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle and Plymouth.

In Cardiff Deputy Branch Officer Chard operated from a four storey building which included a lounge, bar, gymnasium and billiards room. At Liverpool with its headquarters located in Duke Street, 'Blackshirt' Moose was responsible for both the physical training of members and the branch gymnasium. While in Leeds the area headquarters were opened at 27, Cavendish Road, with eighteen rooms which included two club rooms a dry canteen and gymnasium.

OFFICIAL NHQ FOOTBALL

Early in 1934 saw the formation of the Headquarters XI football team. This team was organised by W. Cooke, who was also later to be appointed Sports Secretary, National Headquarters.

The team consisted of personnel drawn mainly from the elite National Defence Force. Having worked tirelessly during the week stewarding the meeting of the Leader and his Senior Propaganda Officers, these men were granted Saturday and Sunday off for their matches, provided they were still available for evening duty.

The team's first fixture was in early February 1934, against the Oliveans 2nd XI in Hyde Park with HQ XI winning 3-0. Paine (2) and Spencer (1) getting the goals. Soon teams were being raised from the surrounding branches, but it was a provincial fixture at Portsmouth which offered the first 'Blackshirt' opposition. This game was played on Sunday, February 11 with Deputy Administrative Officer, Carlyle Elliot and sixty members of NHQ supporting the match. It was, however, a totally one sided affair with NHQ



THE MANCHESTER BOXING TEAM WITH BRANCH OFFICER
DICKENSON HOLDING THE WINNER'S TROPHY

winning, by a flattering, 14-0 score line.

The Ashford, Birmingham, Colchester, Hackney, Islington and Manchester branches all raised teams during 1934. While Scotland had its own league formed with six 'Blackshirt' teams raised by the Edinburgh, Motherwell, Dumfries and Dalbeattie branches.

From these opponents only the Hackney team was able to defeat the NHQ XI. In a match played on Hackney Marshes Sunday December 23, 1934 the Hackney team score six goals to only two from headquarters. Honour was soon restored, however, when on February 17 NHQ and Hackney meet for the third time with NHQ winning by 4-0, with goals from Simpson, Bennett, Mills and Bussey.

By the close of their first season the NHQ team had played a total of twenty two games, winning

seventeen, drawing one and losing only four. The other defeats being by Plaistow Imps, Blakes and Rota Print.

BRITISH UNION BOXERS

A large number of members came from the boxing fraternity or became interested in the sport after joining. Under the organisational skills of F. Marcantonio as Secretary, inter branch competitions were held throughout the winter months at NHQ. Teams from Birmingham, Kingston, Manchester, Richmond, Streatham and Wimbledon all fought for the British Union official boxing trophy. This would finally be won by the Manchester team under Branch Officer C Dickenson, himself a well respected boxer.

Other well known boxers included; Childs, Sunderland - Northern Amateur Lightweight Champion Bainbridge, Sunderland - Sunderland Amateur Boxing Team

Cazalet, Islington - former Middleweight Champion of West Australia

Thomas P Moran, Staff Officer, Newcastle and NHQ staff - former Cruiser - weight Champion of the Combined Fleet

W. Clouston, NHQ staff - Universities Champion 1934
Geoffrey Clarke, NHQ staff - Oxford University Champion 1933

Robert Sheville, Staff Officer, Newcastle and NHQ staff - Amateur

Welterweight Champion of North East England
The movement could also draw on the experience of Lieutenant-Colonel James Walsh, former President of the Boxing Committee of the London Territorials to act as referee. While medical supervision was always on hand from the staff of the Medical Section under DR A M A Moore.



A NEW PERSPECTIVE ON
THE WORLD. FEMALE
BLACKSHIRTS EXERCISE IN
THE GYM

OTHER NHQ CLUBS

In addition to the football and boxing teams, by the end of 1934, there were the BUF Rugby XV, nicknamed 'The All Blacks' and organised by Deputy Administrative Officer Carlyle Elliott. Also the Headquarters Swimming and Water Polo Club formed by Administrative Officer Charles Bradford which would meet each Wednesday at the Chelsea Baths.

Early in 1935, a Hiking Club was added with Sub Branch Officer Jack Hickman in charge. This was quickly followed by the NHQ Cricket Team, under the supervision of Sub Commandant Bryan Donovan, Officer in Charge of London. The BUF Cycling Club with Deputy Branch Officer A F Chapman as secretary and a Blackshirt Boating and Rowing Club formed by D.A.O. Nelson.

worlds endurance record for the motor cycle with 48 hours continuous driving. He was also the permanent holder of the Spikins Trophy which he won in 1925, 1926 and 1927. This trophy was the award for solo riders over some of the most gruelling steeplechase courses in the country.



RINGSIDE: SIR OSWALD AND DR A.M.A. MOORE

Other members of the Transport Section included Unit Leader Jack Reville who captained the Crystal Palace Speedway Team. Unit Leader Gordon Norchi the holder of many motor cycle and sidecar records, and Jack Hillman the well-known racing driver.

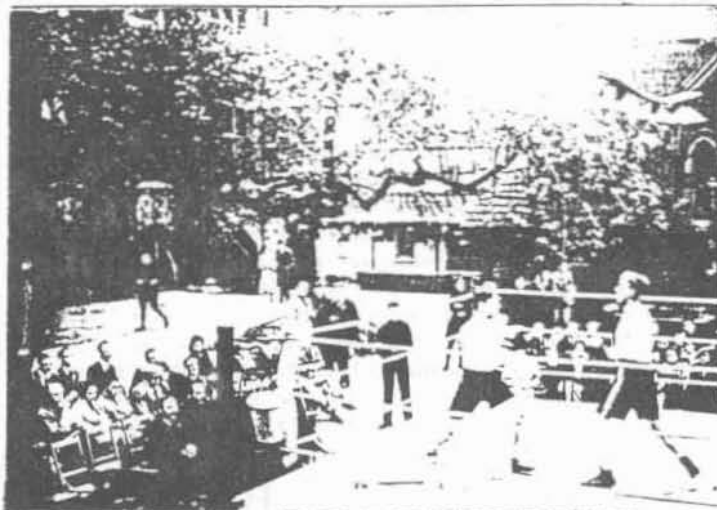
The Ealing Branch was fortunate in having as a member Denis Vino. He was one of the few Europeans to have achieved a brown belt in judo. He was a member of the Budokwai Club, the best known judo club in the country, and was also a member of the England International Judo Team.

'BLACKSHIRT' LIFESAVERS

A surprising addition to the Movement was the formation of the Lifesaving Detachment at Dumfries. Under the command of Deputy Branch Officer, John Hone with headquarters at 17, Queen Street, Dumfries this team of twelve highly trained swimmers and first aiders patrolled the 50 mile stretch of the beaches at Sandyhill and Southernness in Galloway.

In March, 1934 two 'Blackshirts', Edwards and Ford rescued a drowning boy from rough seas at Bristol. These two members had crawled down the Bristol Sea Wall, at considerable risk to themselves, and dragged the boy to safety.

Another West Country member who deserves special recognition was Edward Cross of the Bristol Central Branch. He drowned while saving the life of Graham Brook, a nine year old boy, who had fallen into the river from a wall at Wapping Wharf, Bristol in August, 1935. Cross would later be recognised for this heroic act when his parents were



1ST BOXING MATCH IN THE GROUNDS OF THE BLACK HOUSE

awarded a grant and memorial certificate from the Carnegie Hero Fund.

FENCING CLASSES

Finally, no study of British Union sports would be complete without the inclusion of its fencing classes and displays. In Sir Oswald Mosley the 'Blackshirts' had one of Great Britain's most respected fencing competitors and naturally the Movement was drawn to this specialist event.

throughout the country, with the Leader often the main attraction. The Hull Branch which opened in April 1934 at George Street included a contest between the Deputy Branch Officer Robert Piper and OM. While a 'Midnight Fencing Display' by the Leader was arranged at The Prince's Galleries that October. Sir Oswald Mosley discovered his talent for fencing early and by the age of fifteen years and four

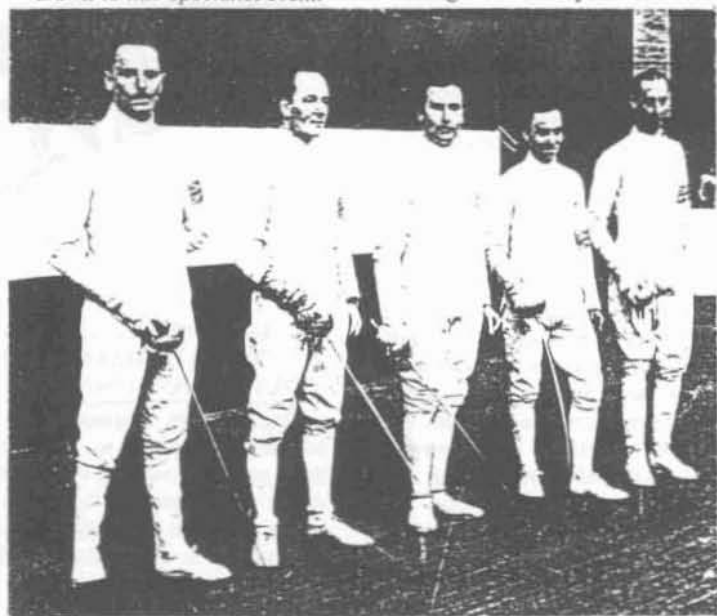


BETWEEN THE BOUTS. MOSLEY AND FRANCIS HAWKINS IN MANCHESTER

FAMOUS MEMBERS

The headquarter staff contained many famous names from the sporting world. Sub Branch Officer, Tom Naylor from the Research Department and Miss Edith Thatcher of the Women's Section were both famous 'hikers'. Edith held the record for walking 50 miles in one day. While Tom had walked from Land's End to John O'Groats. They would later marry in February, 1934 this being only the second uniformed Fascist wedding in the Movement.

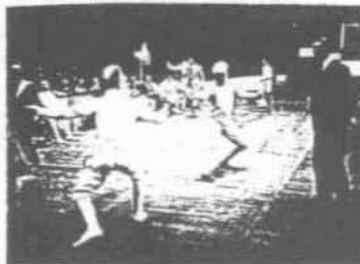
From the motoring world the London Transport Section contained many famous names. These included Section Leader, Vernon Pickering who held the



SIR OSWALD AND THE BRITISH FENCING TEAM AT THE WORLD FENCING CHAMPIONSHIPS IN PARIS, JULY 1937

National Headquarters allocated Thursday evening for fencing classes which proved to be a great success. Special exhibition matches were organised

months he had won the Public Schools Fencing Championship with both foil and sabre. In so doing he became the youngest competitor to win either event and the first to win both in one day. Some years later when he took up the sport again, purely for exercise, he became runner-up for two successive years in the British Epee Championships (1932-1933). He was also a team member representing Britain at the World Fencing Championships held in Paris in July 1937.



ON GUARD. MOSLEY IN CONTEST

F.O.M. is very fortunate in the number of manuscripts generated by B.U.F. members, who in later years have written about their role in those momentous times. Add to this a raft of PhD students who have picked a strand of interest to undertake a detailed story of some event, person or location. Often with the help of the F.O.M. resource base. Apart from this, professional authors are publishing hardback studies covering a wide range of interests.

Recently, a donated box of miscellaneous papers revealed a small exercise book containing what was to be a history of the B.U.F. Titled, **An Epoch of British Union Struggle**. As well as a forward it contains just one chapter covering the year 1933. Its distinctive style made it a 'from the heart' first person narrative that outstandingly captured its time. It was written in 1940 and without doubt the author had other matters on his mind and got no further with his project. Even a year of text is worth recording for posterity, so we publish with pride this anonymous author's history entitled;

AN EPOCH OF BRITISH UNION STRUGGLE

Anon

Preface

The object of this book is not to even attempt a detailed record of British Union's achievements in the first seven years of its rapid rise as a national movement, but rather to try and illustrate the spirit that its leadership instils in the men and women who fearlessly work for its rise to power in Britain.

If I am successful in this aim, then I am content in knowing that perhaps it will reflect the thoughts of my compatriots.

YEAR ONE

The year of 1933 was one of many great political achievements for those who had returned into the new strata of politics. In Britain especially, things had begun to hum in political circles, Mosley had started a new movement. Later on in the year it was not only political circles that talked of his amazing audacity in entering alone into the political wilderness, but the people of Britain as a whole. The black-shirted speaker on his rostrum in our parks and commons, and at the street corner, surrounded by a small circle of equally Blackshirted stewards was now becoming a familiar sight. The blackshirted paper seller on all the main thoroughfares of our London and provincial streets selling his copies of "Blackshirt" was just as familiar a sight.

Branches of the organisation were springing up in the night, new recruits were enrolling by the thousand, the daily papers were full of this so un-English spurt in politics. The politicians blinked and rubbed their eyes, then looked again to make certain they were still not dreaming. And meanwhile Fascism in Britain got on with the job. Labourers, salesmen, shop assistants, professional men and women from every walk of life were enrolling, donning the blackshirt, and doing the routine jobs of blackshirt organisation. Sweeping the floors, running canteens,

of false promises, but who on the other hand, were still proud to wear their medal ribbons. Mosley who had fought with them on the battlefield, and who after coming back was as disillusioned as they. This state of affairs for the new movement was however unsatisfactory to the old gang parties who began to fade into the background. Mr Baldwin found it necessary to issue a special leaflet to his followers in the Conservative Party, urging them to think twice before running off to join the Blackshirts. All to no avail however, still they came. Not only the rank and file of the Conservative Party but also some of their most promising prospective candidates for Parliament. One found many ex-Conservative M.P.s who with the benefit of their experiences in political life, undertook to organise and instruct the young movement in how to avoid the pit falls of overzealous democratic talk and muddle.



IN THE SPRING OF 1933 A GROUP OF UNIFORMED BLACKSHIRTS MARCH THROUGH LONDON'S WEST END FOR THE FIRST TIME

selling papers, speaking at meetings, helping to steward those meeting, working night and day in many instances in order to utilise the great flood of recruits for training in such jobs as had taken the old parties years to do.

In the first few months, the modern movement attracted to its ranks men and women who had never been members of any political organisation. They were people who had for years watched the old parties muddling along from a safe distance. They had sickened at the thought of Britain being dragged down into the mud by a gang of old white-haired gamblers, who argued and engaged in mock battles - at the peoples expense - over small issues while the big issues were left unchallenged.

Now they saw the alternative, a new movement with young red blood at the head. In its ranks men, who had also become tired

Then the Tories produced their first weapon, to slay if they could, the new and virile movement. From all sections of the Tory press there started to appear an attack of ridicule and hysterical laughter at people who wore Blackshirts. This had little effect and gradually turned from ridicule to abuse coupled with mendacious lies that reeked of Tory hypocrisy and class prejudice.

At this point we first began to hear of Labour - which up till then had regarded us with suspicion and violent looks, from this was derived open hostility and violent opposition. All over the country Blackshirt speakers were assailed with abuse and organised attacks. Hand in hand with Labour worked the Communist Party, who, sent their hired ruffians from the ghetto and race course gangs from all parts of the country to smash British Union meetings. Unprovoked

attacks on speakers and Blackshirt sellers were made everywhere with the full connivance of the Labour and Conservative Parties alike.

In every case the political biased press, with few exceptions, put the blame down to political uniforms which in their opinion, crooked and warped as it may seem, provoked the peaceful opposition into fits of wrath at these foreign-looking young Englishmen.

There was, as will be shown, a remedy to this wave of red thuggery and that was in the swift organisation of defence forces in all the movements branches. These men and women were trained in the art of defending themselves by boxing, fencing, jujitsu and all the other well-known methods. All over the country there appeared these organised units for defence. Soon the opposition began to be repaid in their own coin, violent opposition at meetings which prevented the speaker from being heard, was dealt within the good old English way - a hard fist. Even then the fight was unequal, fists were then up against weapons. The British Union Museum today can still show a variety of weapons that have been taken from agitators at Blackshirt meetings. They include broken bottles, razor blades, old socks filled with ground glass or sand, lead and rubber piping, loaded sticks and pen knives which when hurled open through the air are extremely unpleasant. Hundreds of these cases have been proved in the courts up and down the country hundreds more unproved. Their records with full details, never the less, are still kept filed away. One day justice will be meted out in full for those of our comrades who have wounds still to show.

1933 was a year of great struggle and hardship for the new movement. It was, however, a year of great destiny and endeavour for those men and women pioneers of a new faith. It is to be noted that where many others invariably have fallen by the roadside in later years, those of our comrades in 1933 still remain with us as rigorous and as determined as ever to see this great epoch of British Union through. The steel creed of an iron age had moulded in the hearts of those early pioneers, a spirit of sacrifice as enduring as the ages and as steadfast as the rock of Gibraltar.

"We were divided and we were conquered. That is the tragic epitaph of two war generations. That was the fate of my generation in 1914, and that was the doom of a new generation of young soldiers in 1939. The youth of Europe shed the blood of their sons, and the jackals of the world grew fat" 'The Gale of the World' by Henry Williamson.

THE DAY THE BLOODSHED STOPPED

By Robert Best

After the recent yuletide festivities, and the increasing likelihood that British troops will have to risk their lives in a bloody conflict against an Arab enemy, which is no threat to Britain or Europe, it is good to remember the extraordinary events on the first Christmas Day of World War One. British and German troops put down their weapons and celebrated in peace together, in the no-man's land between the mud and blood-filled trenches of the Somme.

The day is described as "the most famous truce in military history" by British researcher, Malcolm Brown and Shirley Seaton in their 1994 book, "Christmas Truce". The book quotes a moving letter by Private Oswald Tilley of the London Rifle Brigade to his mother and father, "Just you think that while you were eating your turkey, I was out talking and shaking hands with the very men I had been trying to kill a few hours before! It was astounding!"

From the German side another letter is reproduced, penned by Lieutenant Johannes Niemann of the 133rd Saxon Regiment, "Suddenly a Tommy came with a football, kicking already and making fun, and then began a football match. We marked the goals with our caps. Teams were quickly established for a match on the frozen mud, and the Fritzies beat the Tommies 3-2."

In some places the festivities commenced when the British began lighting bonfires and setting off fireworks. Elsewhere, the Germans took the initiative and lit candles on Christmas trees, witnessed by British sentries a few hundred yards away. The troops in khaki and grey exchanged gifts of chocolate, liquor, jam, sausages and tobacco, song cards in their native tongues, exchanged names and addresses and played impromptu games of football amidst the barbed wire and shell holes. They even visited each others trenches.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, the famous author and creator of Sherlock Holmes described the Christmas Truce as, "... one human episode amid all the atrocities."

OH, WHAT A LOVELY WAR

It was inevitable that the warmongers amongst the politicians and generals would become alarmed at the increasing 'fraternization' between British, French and German troops which had grown even before Christmas, as the war dragged to a halt along a 400 mile front. General Sir Horace Smith-Dorrien, officer commanding the British Second Corps, wrote in his diary on December 1st 1914: "Weird stories come in from the trenches about fraternizing with the Germans ... I therefore intend to issue instructions to my corps not to fraternize in any way whatever with the enemy ... lest officers and men sink into a military lethargy from which it is difficult to arouse them when the moment for great sacrifices again arises ..."

On December 29th 1914 the German High Command forbade fraternization as high treason. The miracle of European Brotherhood and Union amidst bloodshed was crushed by a corrupt 'Establishment', and the suicidal European Civil War of attrition began again with a tragic vengeance in January 1915, leading to the slaughter of 10 million men, women and children throughout Europe.

However, the need for Peace and Union had already been planted in the minds of many. All along the front line on Christmas Day, 1914, British and German soldiers found their so-called 'enemies' were much like thousands and began to ask the question 'Why should we kill each other?'



HENRY WILLIAMSON
CAUGHT IN REFLECTIVE
MOOD AT A BRITISH UNION
RALLY CALLING FOR PEACE

One such man was Henry Williamson, who would forever remember the Christmas truce, when a gallant German officer helped him to rescue a wounded British soldier caught in barbed wire on the front line. Williamson was later seriously wounded at Passchendaele and ended the war as a Captain with a Military Cross. Far from falling for the serious anti-German hate propaganda of the gutter press, many men like Williamson returned home, determined to build a 'Land Fit For Heroes' and opposed to any more disastrous wars between 'brother Europeans'.

As the war clouds re-gathered for a second round of bloodletting in Europe, Henry Williamson, the famous author of 'Tarka the Otter' joined Sir Oswald



A UNIFORMED MOSLEY IN
1916 WHO WAS
DETERMINED TO STOP A
SECOND ROUND OF
BLOOD-LETTING

Mosley's British Union, writing pro-peace articles for the movements newspaper, 'Action'. The writer was not the first to point out that the only result of another war would be; the destruction of the British Empire and the enslavement of much of Europe by Asiatic Communism. Furthermore, the 'double-standards' in failing to declare war also, against the Soviet Union which had also invaded Poland, from the east in 1939! Williamson also persuaded his close friend, T.E. Lawrence of 'Lawrence of Arabia' renown, to join with Mosley in a great campaign for peace, when the hero was killed in a suspicious motorcycle accident.

THE KILLING FIELDS AGAIN

In 1940, Williamson visited Mosley and proposed that he fly a private plane on a peace mission to Germany requesting

an audience with Hitler, "... as a common soldier who had fraternised, on the faraway Christmas Day of 1914, with the men of his Linz battalion under Messines Hill, might I not be able to give him the amity he so desired from England, a country he admired?"

The leader realised, however, that tragically it was far too late, Churchill had rejected every peace offer from Germany out of hand, even when such offers meant retaining the British Empire intact, in return for Britain's non-intervention against Germany hegemony in continental Europe. In 1940, over one thousand British citizens were imprisoned without charge or trial for opposition to the war, including Mosley, Williamson and 800 members of British Union.

After the second 'Brothers War' of 1939-1945, Henry Williamson became an enthusiastic early member of Mosley's 'Union Movement', which advanced the radical path of 'Europe a Nation', whereby the old obsolete hatreds and nationalisms of kindred Europeans could be reconciled within the Union of Europe. He became a regular contributor to the UM's literary and intellectual review 'The European'.

Like Mosley, Williamson stated that Union Movement went far beyond the old Fascism which had failed, because it was too national and financial democracy with its weakness of corruption and decay. In 'The Gale of the World', part of Williamson's 'Chronicle of Ancient Sunlight' series written between 1951 and 1969, it ends with a stirring call for we Europeans to heal old wounds and obsolete antagonisms and to march forward in a great 'European spirit' of the future to build a new civilisation of progress and achievement, to surpass the great achievements and splendour of the British Empire, Classic Greece and Imperial Rome. The Christmas Truce of 1914 is surely an inspiration to those patriots who believe in European Unity, an inevitable ideal whose time has come.

**Union Means Peace
Union Means Strength.
Union Means:
'Europe A Nation'**

Christmas Truce by M. Brown
and S. Seaton, published by Pan
Macmillan, PB 1999 £7.99
ISBN: 0330390651.

Thanks to John Christian's encouragement, Robert Richards was persuaded to write about his eventful time as a member of the Newcastle Branch of British Union. The articles have been appreciated by our readers.

We reach the penultimate episode of D-Day paratrooper Robert Richards' memoirs. After the act banning the wearing of political uniforms came into force on January 1st 1937. A vibrant branch finds new ways of spreading the message. A visit is made to the Selsey summer camp and with Jack Lynne moving away from 'Geordieland' Richards is appointed District Leader.

HOW THE BUF CAME TO GEORDIELAND

On the 1st January 1937, the Public Order Act became law in Britain. Several HQ meetings of 'Geordie' members during January saw a number of young members appearing in Blackshirt uniform; a gesture of defiance indicative of a strong sense of the injustice of this politically biased Act. After two or three meetings at which a range of reactionary views were expressed, ideas aired and talked through, the reality of the situation was acknowledged. The Blackshirt uniform was 'moth-balled'; the Blackshirt spirit was unquenched! The campaign 'against vested power and red front' would continue unabated, in mufti.

The foremost issue was: 'to get the Mosley Message for a Greater Britain to our people'. Above everything else that mattered most of all, as Mosley said "It suits our financial masters well that all parties should combine to tell the people that Parliament is the sole effective guardian of liberty, and naturally, the national press, which the money power so largely controls, is in unison to echo the same refrain. It is also not surprising to find that anyone who dares to suggest that the liberty of the people alone can be preserved, and their will alone can be carried out, by the entrusting of the Government, which they have elected, with power in the name of the people to act, should be unanimously denounced by the old parties and the financial Press as a tyrant who desires to overthrow British liberty".

Baldwin's Nationalist Government boastfully announced in January that its planned target to increase the RAF strength had been achieved three months ahead of time and that 80 of the 90 new air bases in Britain were ready.

In February, Baldwin's 'Nat' Government announced plans for a 'massive expenditure' on expanding the Royal Navy claiming that by the end of 1937, 'every British shipyard would be working at full capacity'. (Tyneside was one of the three major shipbuilding regions in Britain).

The Labour Opposition together with their pacifist allies campaigned vociferously against this policy with a vigour matched only by their ranting at the Government's failure to do anything to stop National Socialist Germany's renaissance. Baldwin's 'Nat' Government revealed plans to spend £2m on a nation-wide fitness campaign to provide: playing fields; swimming pools; community centre gymnasiums; and a college of physical training.

DOUBLE STANDARDS

Before February had ended, the media added to their endless distorted reporting on the Spanish civil war, an acknowledgement that it was a conflict between Communist and Fascist ideologies, and that approximately 60,000 volunteers had enlisted on each side. Prominence was given to the involvement of the 'Clement Attlee Battalion', part of the International Brigade fighting alongside the Spanish Communists.

(Clement Attlee was Leader of the Labour Opposition at this time, later he became deputy Prime Minister in Churchill's War Cabinet, Prime Minister in the Labour landslide election victory of 1945 and later accepted an earldom).

It almost passed without comment that in March, Prime Minister Baldwin's salary was increased. The following month income tax was also increased. Getting very much more attention however, were some of the results in the LCC municipal elections. Results which had confounded the so-called political pundits and provoked a furor of wild speculative comment! The first British Union candidates had presented themselves for election in London's East End! The real people of the 'East End' had registered their democratic answer to the 'undemocratic' Public Order Act, which the media had been trumpeting far and wide only 10 weeks earlier would sound the death knell for Sir Oswald Mosley and the BUF! For a brief moment in January and March the 'Wall of Silence' had been breached. It was against

this background of events that the BU 'Geordies' continued the 'political battle' in 'Geordieland' as the cold northern winter gave way to Spring.

The Harrier Group (z and x sections) decided that their regular exercise and publicity runs through the City streets were unlikely to be impeded by the enforcement of the P.O.A. However, there were some minor modifications to the previous practice: the 'x' section dropped the 'scout pace' technique; the alternating '200yds brisk walking' might be interpreted as: 'political marching'; in future these potential 'z' section recruits and others would continue their outings at a jog trot and include at least one practice in forming the '3 column-in-step formation' (no chanting). This manoeuvre was explained before each outing.

The black vest, shorts and plimsolls ceased to be the preferred apparel. As many of the 'Group' were also members of sports clubs they were encouraged to wear their club vest. (After a short while the majority of both sections appeared to have become supporters of Newcastle United FC, as more and more turned out wearing 'black and white').

'z' section increased the 'chant-manoeuvre' as their ability in coming quickly into 'formation' and then rapidly reverting to informal 'pack' running became efficient and effective. Clearly this particular activity had a special appeal to many of the young Blackshirts (in mufti).

Within the 'z' section were a number of members ever eager for more demonstrative and innovative activities, personnel who were always ready 'to-do!' The same members who had continued to wear uniform in Branch HQ, and were strongest in expressing themselves during the January and February discussions relating to the POA, members who were fervent patriots and unbending anti-communist.

EXTRA MURAL ACTIVITY

During the early Summer, complaints were received from the local Billboard Advertising



SIR OSWALD MOSLEY RELAXES AT THE SELSEY BLACKSHIRT SUMMER CAMP

Agency about the appearance overnight of unauthorised posting of 'Action' placards on a number of rented sites. This complaint coincided with the visit of a plain clothes police officer, enquiring about the appearance of graphic slogans with a BUF connotation painted alongside busy suburban traffic routes.

Assurances were given that neither of these activities were authorised by the Newcastle BUF Branch Organisation. Steps would be taken forthwith to ensure that members were made aware that complaints had been lodged, further that it had been pointed out to the Branch officers that perpetrators of the illegal activities, if caught, risked being taken before a Court.

It is remembered that at about this time unguarded remarks referring to the 'FBN team' or the C&F squad, would be overheard, when queried the result would be an uneasy embarrassed silence, and the subject changed. Some years later it came to light that 'FBN' stood for: 'Fly-by-night' and 'C&F' was: 'Circle and Flash! Two covert operations units working unofficially and independently of each other.

The effect of the nation wide reaction of the 'print and radio media' to the vote (an average of 19% in 3 constituencies) for the British Union candidates in the LCC election was reflected in increased street sales of 'Action' and the exceptional number of question being asked about BUF 'policies' by the 'Geordie' folk. Yes!, the 'silence had been

broken!" if only for a short time; more public interest raised and an inquiring curiosity created on the City streets of Newcastle. Those weeks following the 'Ballot Box Tremor' (epicentre: London's East End!) were exciting when engaged in getting the 'Mosley Message' to our people. A changing political mood was noticeable; a weakening confidence in Baldwin's Nationalist Government.

Mosley's speech on the 15th May, was taken as a signal to further intensify all local outdoor activities quote:-

"The decline of an obsolete system is reflected not only in parliamentary leadership but in the whole conduct of government and of parliamentary debate.

The Cabinet has become a 'speakeasy' from which collective responsibility, discipline and team-work, has departed. Every little tadpole struggling for personal position airs his own opinion at the expense of his country, his colleagues, his leader and his party ... The tedium of proceedings is relieved, alone, by zoological noises from the socialist benches to howl down anyone who ventures at all vigorously to criticise their policy.

Whatever reality parliament ever possessed has departed, controversy is left to the daily newspapers, while government as ever is left to the City of London."

ALL CHANGE

There was a growing anticipation of an imminent parliamentary administration upheaval. When it happened, its speed was surprising!(less than 2 weeks after OM's speech!) even more surprising was the event: the Prime Minister - phlegmatic 'honest' Stan Baldwin informed the 'House', on 27th May, of his retirement!?

Both sides of the 'House' were virtually unanimous in eulogising the record of alleged achievement of this man who had been in the forefront of the General Strike 1926; the Abdication, 1936; and the Coronation, 1937. A worthy recipient, the 'House' agreed, of the Earldom bestowed.

The new Prime Minister, Neville Chamberlain, moved from No.11 to No.10, Downing Street, with little comment. The media did not even speculate on the possibility of the new Prime Minister seeking approval and/or a fresh mandate from the people through the ballot box. The policy of the government was to

continue but with greater speed; with more borrowed money; with more guarantees to interfere in other countries business; and a rapidly rising national debt owing to International Finance.

EXPEDITION

The British Union Summer Rally and Camp held at Selsey Bill, West Sussex, was an event being discussed by most of the young members. Many wanted to attend but the distance of approximately 350 miles in those days was almost comparable to considering, nowadays, an overland journey, (avoiding motorways and autobahns), to Bulgaria!

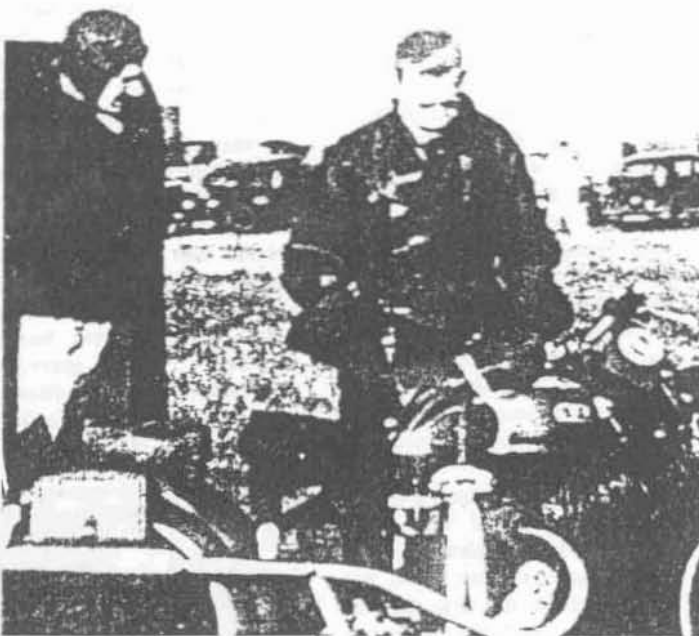
Nevertheless, starting at dawn a party of 6 'Geordie' Blackshirts made the journey. Three motorcycles and on m/c & side car were the transport. The chief navigator was familiar with 50% of the route, and was aided by a road-map borrowed from the

'Crusade' in the company of such a great 'Leader'.

Our expedition from 'Geordieland' along miles of England's ever winding country roads, through towns and villages (no by-passes, no dual highways in those days!) was in the circumstances no less a privilege. Back on Tyneside as the Summer of '37, drew to a close the naval shipyards and armament factories were beginning to show signs of an active revival. Much local publicity had been given to the conversion of a local Coastal Defence Regiment to an Anti-Aircraft Regiment (TA). Headline coverage was allocated to a highly organised recruitment campaign being mounted in Newcastle to double the size of the Regiment.

BRITAIN PREPARES

The September, annual conference of the TUC voted in favour of re-armament.



MANY MODES OF TRANSPORT WERE USED TO REACH THE SELSEY BLACKSHIRT CAMP. TRAINS, BUSES, CARS AND THE EVER POPULAR MOTOR BIKE

local library! This 'long-range group' finally drove onto the camp-site only to find they were 15 minutes late for OM's presentation ceremony. The disappointment was quickly forgotten as they were rapidly absorbed into the infectious enthusiasm and spirit of comradeship which pervaded the Camp. The weariness of the journey soon evaporated (they were fit Blackshirt athletes). Meeting, as they did, so many Blackshirt comrades from many parts of Britain and listening to an exchange of experiences each and everyone had had including, not least of all, long last awakening! We felt privileged to be part of this tremendous

In November, it was revealed that trials with a variety of air raid shelters were taking place in a full-scale model of a London street. Earlier the government announced that all Britons were to be measured for gas masks. The Labour Party was opposed to these activities.

Public unease and concern as these events developed were being carefully hyped and exploited by the media. Every opportunity was taken to deepen and exaggerate rumour and speculation regarding the existing unstable European political situation. 'Action' street sales reflected public concern and sales teams reported widely differing public reactions from week to

week, i.e. many new purchasers would ask: 'Is there going to be war?', whilst others would be accusative and/or abusive: 'On whose side are you?', - 'Read Mosley', was the standard reply. In concluding these recollections of 1937, mention must be made of the District Leader, who in mid-Autumn moved from 'Geordieland'. Jack Lynne had taken over from the charismatic Tommy Moran in the Autumn, 1934. Following the meteoric and tumultuous period under the Leadership of TM, it could be said that Jack Lynne's Leadership was: 'innovative and imaginative'. The highlights being:- 1) General Election '35 campaign; 2) the unique 'Harrier Group' publicity activities; and 3) the street Sales-teams' use of 'intensive techniques'; and perhaps the recruitment of a number of Young Conservatives!.

Coinciding with JL's departure came also the move of Branch HQ from its City centre premises in Clayton Street, to more compact accommodation in Lovain Crescent. A quiet location whilst still in the inner city area it was out of the public eye.

The highlight of the 5th Anniversary was the new District Leader's first hand account and experiences of the 'expedition' to the Selsey Bill, 'Rally and Camp', and personal meeting and conversation with OM. 'How had the journey been organised if no one had any experience of the route south of York?'; 'What was it OM said to you?'. These and many others were the questions being eagerly put by the young members.

As the year ended several of our young members were once again in uniform! They had enrolled in the Territorial Army! Their banned Blackshirt uniform of British Union was replaced by that of His Majesty's part time soldiers. Their spare-time was now to be shared (not divided) in the service of their country and its people.

(In retrospect this could be considered the 'turning point' in the British Union's epic crusade in 'Geordieland' against the covert International Money Power working behind the mind-bending 'Media and Red-Front'). The Leader, Sir Oswald Mosley, had written in his historic book: 'The Greater Britain', 1932, "It is part of the dedicated life of a new movement that constant training in mind and body which is in readiness to serve when the time comes"

To be continued.

THE SHAVEN CROWN REVISITED

By Gregory Maitland

It is always a pleasure to drive through the Cotswolds. Oxford, Stratford-upon-Avon, Cheltenham and Cirencester all offer rewarding days of exploration. At the near epicentre of these major tourist attractions lies Shipton-under-Wychwood an unassuming Cotswold village complete with church, village green and the Shaven Crown Hotel. Its origins date back to the 14th Century when it was built as a hospice to Bruern Abbey.

Safely in private ownership, this well preserved inn of honey coloured stone, surrounding a medieval central courtyard garden has the mellow charm of 600 years of hospitality. It affords the visitor the chance to relax in front of a log fire in the Monks Bar. A candlelit dinner in the restaurant. An al-fresco meal in the courtyard during the summer months, all without 'benefit' of piped music or electronic pin ball machines. As well as its original hall complete with a double-collar braced roof is the 14th century gateway. Few who pass through it today realise it has a place in Britain's more recent history. In December 1943 this entrance was besieged by the national press and curious villagers all trying to catch a glimpse of its latest guests.

DARK HISTORY

The story begins in Holloway prison, six months previously. After three years in jail Sir Oswald Mosley's health was failing. Phlebitis was diagnosed. This disease had stalked his life from the time he injured his leg in World War One. Lack of exercise and freezing conditions in his cell had exacerbated the condition. His personal physician, Dr Geoffrey Evans, together with prison doctors and the King's physician, Lord Dawson of Penn, all agreed that Mosley's life was at risk. In a report to Herbert Morrison, the Home Secretary and Minister for Home Security, on the 9th November 1943 the doctors warned of permanent damage to health and even death if Mosley was to remain in prison. Faced with the stark choice of a long term political prisoner held without charge or trial becoming a martyr, forced Morrison to order his release on very onerous terms. No contact with former political colleagues. A restriction zone of seven miles. No car. No interviews with the press or radio. No written articles. In simple terms house arrest

complete with Scotland Yard detectives in constant attendance.

WHERE TO LIVE

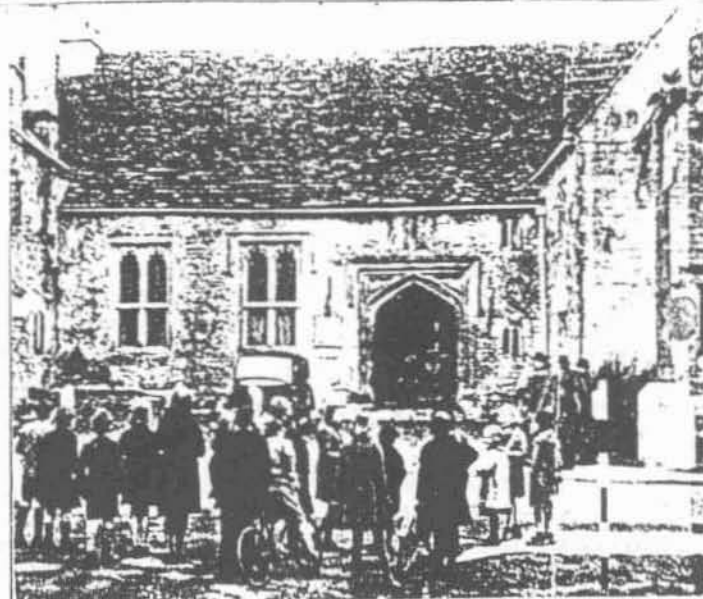
The next problem was to find suitable accommodation away from the prison that met with the Government's approval. The family home at Denham had been requisitioned by the army and with the ban on returning to London, the only option was a place in the country. Diana's sister, Pamela, together with her husband, Derek Jackson, offered to take them in. Before dawn on the 20th November 1943 with a baying mob of Communists outside the front of Holloway Jail, Sir Oswald together with Diana, were led across the prison courtyard to a little known doorway (often used by the public hangman) at the rear of the prison. Outside with engines running two cars waited to drive the couple to freedom – of a sort. As dawn broke over the frosty countryside Lady Mosley remarked "I thought that nothing so beautiful was ever seen by human eye".

At Rignell, the Jackson's home, they were reunited with their children, Max and Alexander also Muv, Diana's mother. Debo, her sister and for the first time in three and a half years the chance to sleep in a warm bed between linen sheets.



ANTI RELEASE PROTESTORS OUTSIDE PARLIAMENT

Back in London the furore in allowing Mosley's release from prison increased. Demonstrations outside Parliament led to a Trafalgar Square protest meeting



A CURIOUS CROWD OF VILLAGERS TOGETHER WITH THE PRESS OUTSIDE THE FRONT ENTRANCE TO THE SHAVEN CROWN INN DECEMBER 1943.

all organised by Communists and fellow travelling M.Ps. Only one man put the whole charade into perspective, Bernard Shaw, independently minded as ever said "I think this Mosley panic shameful. What sort of people are they who can be frightened out of their wits by single men? Even if Mosley were in rude health, it was high time to release him with apologies for having let him frighten us into scrapping the Habeas Corpus act – Mr Morrison has not justified the outrageous conditions – the gag in Mosley's mouth and the seven mile leg iron. We are still afraid to let Mosley defend himself".



THE COMMUNIST INSPIRED ANTI-MOSLEY TRAFALGAR SQUARE MEETING

Having lost four stones in weight a very enfeebled Mosley was advised to stay in bed. This at least had the advantage to thwart the journalists and photographers who had tracked him down. Lurid stories were published about living in a mansion, it was a large house, baying hounds, these were the Jackson's dachshunds. The losers were the half frozen reporters holed up in every surrounding bush, hedge and ditch. They finally gave up, allowing the Mosleys to take

short walks in the garden without being harassed with questions they could not have answered under the terms of their release. Against this tranquil background the Communist organised protests grew in ferocity. In Parliament speaker after speaker called for their re-arrest. A declaration was made that his release "was calculated to retard the war effort" Locker-Lampson, the self-seeking clown of all war-time M.Ps asked that Lady Mosley be examined for phlebitis. Another asked about the employment of (non-existent) servants. At the end of the debate, the voting was 62 M.Ps against release.

AN INSPECTOR CALLS

Within a few days Rignell was suddenly invaded by a group of uniformed constables, plain clothed officers and the Chief



A GAUNT LOOKING MOSLEY AIDED BY A WALKING STICK GATHERS IN SOME WINTER FUEL.

Constable of Oxfordshire demanding the Mosleys leave immediately. It seemed that despite the Home Office agreeing to the chosen address, it had come to light that Wing Commander Derek Jackson D.F.C. and A.F.C. in his role as a physicist was working on a secret radar project for the Government. This, in the myopic world of state control posed a threat to national security by having the Mosleys under the same roof. As Sir Oswald later commented, "It would have been a hard job to explain to me what it was all about. Even with evil intent I should have had an even harder job under close house arrest to communicate the stuff to anyone else" The Air Ministry and Home Office had fallen into a total panic but where to go? The answer lay in the Shaven Crown at Shipton-under-Wychwood. The hotel side of the business was closed for the duration and so had the capacity to open up some of the musty dusty rooms to accommodate the Mosleys together with the ever attentive Mr Jones of the Special Branch. Again the Communists tried to make trouble by attempting to raise a local petition demanding re-arrest and imprisonment. **Not one villager signed.** As Mosley commented "it was sometimes alleged that I was an object of hatred among the British people. I can truly reply that we never found a trace of it outside the square mile comprising Westminster, Whitehall and Fleet Street."

The ever present journalists and photographers did at least manage to glimpse their elusive prey. A few snatched pictures showed a boiler-suited Mosley crossing the courtyard with Diana another showed Sir Oswald with a walking stick carrying a bucket of coal. **For the first time in years this showed to the world just how much harsh years of imprisonment had taken its toll on Sir Oswald's health.** To add to the problems all the children caught whooping cough!

A NEW START

Early in the new year of 1944 it became increasingly necessary to find a more permanent home. Diana learned of a suitable property near Newbury. Application was made to the Chief Constable to break the seven mile restriction zone in order to view the house. On the appointed day a car complete with two uniformed police officers arrived. En-route Diana called in for lunch with her old and stalwart friend, Gerald Berners. On leaving he remarked



SIR OSWALD AND LADY DIANA MAKE THEIR WAY ACROSS THE INNER COURTYARD OF THE SHAVEN CROWN INN. A SNATCHED SERIES OF PHOTOGRAPHS SHOWS FOR THE FIRST TIME THE TOLL OF PRISON LIFE

"Diana, you are the only person who still has a uniformed driver and footman".

The house at Crux Easton was exactly what they were looking for and was purchased immediately. So at long last the Mosleys could once again resume a normal family life or at least partially, as the severe restrictions of movement and association were to last until the war ended. Passports were withheld for a further number of years. This cat and mouse game by a newly elected Labour Party which included Herbert Morrison will be the subject of a future article in Comrade.

In his memoirs, Mosley recalled this episode of his life: "We were treated throughout this period of adversity in the English countryside not only with toleration but with kindness and even with friendship. It was a moving and healing experience to find the real people of England exactly the same as I remembered during my country childhood, my army days in peace and war and my political friendships in the kindly homes of the workers in all diverse industries of our land."

U.S.E.

The former French President Valery Giscard d'Estang is to be congratulated on his forthright advocacy of renaming The European Union "The United States of Europe". Predictably the New Labour Government of little Englanders responded with "Not a cat in hell's chance". But why not? The old Soviet threat may have diminished but a culture of terror and secrecy still pervades that society. Just recall the recent Moscow Chechen outrage for confirmation of that. As for the "Johnny-come-lately's" in two world wars. Much is spoken about our "Special Relationship" with the USA. It does not exist. The fiction is picked up by politicians to hoodwink the public in time of so called mutual need. Our only salvation and long term well being lies in the true Union of Europe both commercially and politically. The tragedy is that for over fifty years we had stood on the sidelines. Notoriously one Prime Minister "Didn't feel it in his bones to go into Europe" So we continue to lag behind sucking up to the U.S. having cosy chats with Putin as a once Great Britain sinks to the point of no return. Who will lead the fight back? No one knows, but embracing the Mosley doctrine would give a head start.

£100 REWARD

MOSLEY SPEAKS

Sound Transmission is happy to announce the successful recording of the Voice of Oswald Mosley-launching Union Movement.

The recording of this historic speech, in-condensed form on a Double-Sided 12in. record, may be obtained by "Union" readers at a special price of £1 5s. 0d.

ORDER AT ONCE TO SECURE YOUR COPY OF THIS HISTORIC RECORD.

Orders must be accompanied by remittance. Cheques should be made payable to Sound Transmission and crossed.

SOUND TRANSMISSION: 49 Chippenham Road, W.9.

The above advertisement appeared in the first edition of UNION weekly newspaper on 14th February 1948.

It referred to the sale of a double sided 12inch 78r.p.m. record disc of Sir Oswald Mosley speaking at the launch of Union Movement at Wilfred Street School, Victoria on 7th February 1948.

The advertiser unconditionally is prepared to pay £100.00 to the first person who comes forward with a copy of this disc.

Please contact BM/TALON, London WCIN 3XX.

PRESS HYSTERIA

For years presiding governments have released a trickle of secret MI5 documents concerning the Mosleys. The latest batch to be lodged in the Public Record Office were released on Wednesday 27th November 2002. Among the 311 files the word 'Mosley' had the predictable frenzied effect from the British Press. Here again was an opportunity to vilify the name 'Mosley'. This time the attack was aimed as Lady Diana 'more deadly than her husband' 'wildly ambitious' 'dangerous menace' 'a public danger'. A welter of quotes topped out by a picture of 'Diana Mosley addresses a meeting of Sir Oswald's British Union 1934'. This was published in The Times (The Journal of Record), The Guardian, The Daily Mail and countless regional daily's. The only trouble was the picture was totally inaccurate. Lady Diana never spoke at a meeting or took an active part in the British Union. In fact her marriage to Sir Oswald was unknown until 1938. The picture dated from 1926 and featured Sir Oswald's first wife, Lady Cynthia who was an active Labour Party member, later becoming a Westminster M.P. So much for accurate reporting.



THE REAL DIANA MOSLEY

The released files report from 'a loyal subject' hearing from behind a curtain in The Victoria Restaurant how Sir Oswald was going to take over the government.

The story of the police finding three hand guns, two shot guns, two duelling pistols, a sword and a truncheon were faithfully seized on by the newspapers. What they did not report was the fact that where needed, the arms had certificates were in order and returned at the Wars end. In a meeting with CID officers, Sir Oswald said how he had met Hitler twice and did not think the Fuhrer wanted to harm England in any way. During all this sensational reporting Lady Diana remained unavailable for comment. On Saturday 30th November she did give a spirited reply to Phillip Delves Broughton, this was published in The Daily Telegraph. In it she refuted accusations of disloyalty. The eavesdropper behind a curtain 'had no name attributed. In other words the whole thing gossip really'. Defending the arms cache 'they were just ordinary shotguns, to be found on any country estate'. Defending her husband she said 'he was very clever, he had a lot going for him. I think he was right in his economic ideas'. Speaking on he husband's pro-European stance she said my husband believed Europe was the great hope it's completely untrue to say my husband was extreme right. He never was'.

We in F.O.M. endorse that.

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CONSEQUENCES

On 25th January the Daily Mail ran a double-spread by Leo McKinstry on why the BUF did not sweep to power, i.e. did not enter and win the one and only election held before the war. Ignoring his personal abuse of Sir Oswald and his wife - as demonstrably false as it is tediously familiar - we shall briefly answer his 'explanation' that the democratic British in general were too 'tolerant', and our workers in particular too distrustful of this admittedly 'hardworking, charismatic and ferociously bright' political leader.

Mosley started his fascist movement in October 1932. In impact and recruitment within the available time-span it advanced faster than either Labour or the Communists had done. But is soon faced a major media boycott, except for initial Daily Mail support, when honest journalists like Ward Price helped to expose the real organisers of the 'vicious violence' at Olympia and elsewhere mentioned by cliché-peddlers like McKinstry.

As a later Labour leader Michael Foot put it, what Mosley stood for could have prevented both the Hungry Thirties and World War. Sir Oswald Mosley did not reverse but developed those policies he had advanced as Labour minister. Because they attracted many workers in both the Social Democrat and British Union movements, his opponents increasingly denied him meeting places to put his case in industrial towns threatened by overseas

competition. However, he predicted that international finance would engender another unemployment crisis by 1939, breaking this stranglehold on free speech, or the system would 'escape into war'.

McKinstry now worries that excessive immigration could at last destroy our innate tolerance, 'the fabric of a cohesive society will break down, allowing extremism to flourish' and endangering 'our vibrant, multi-cultural society'. Even here Mosley proved correct, the first statesman to warn against this post-war possibility and also propose solutions in his usual constructive way to this very problem.

Was our democracy ever allowed to vote for a 'multi-cultural society'? It is 'vibrant' all right, vibrating with imported diseases, gun crimes, communal conflicts, drug-dealing and sex-trafficking. Unfortunately, 'the greatest orator of his age' is no longer around to end the vile mess his opponents have made of our country.

MOSLEY CENTERNARY LIGHTERS

**Sir Oswald Mosley 1896-1980
Grasp the Stars 1932-1992
Action 1931 Britain First
The Spirit Lives 1932-1992**

Order post-free at £20.00 each.
All cheques made payable to F.O.M.
Euro cheques welcome, see rate of exchange in daily paper.
Send to BCM/FOM, London, WC1N 3XX.

Book Review

THE ARISTOCRACY
AND THE GREAT WAR



GERALD GLIDDON

The Aristocracy and the Great War
By Gerald Gliddon

Gliddon Books £35.00
ISBN: 0947893-35-0

With ten books on World War One, including six on the Victoria Cross to his name the highly respected author Gerald Gliddon must have taken more than a passing interest when, in 1998 the Public Record Office released the Service Records of the World War One Officer Class. This obviously included members of the peerage, the basis for this book. It transpires that at least 1500 men from the aristocracy served with 270 being killed. Arranged in counties it was natural to turn to Staffordshire and in particular Rolleston Hall.

Within three lines we are told of the "most infamous of the Mosleys". Two lines on "for some reason was always known as Tom". We learn that Oswald Mosley went to Sandhurst in 1917! Later (he) "was basically flawed". With the forming of the

B.U.F. "it is difficult to take him very seriously". A conjecture on whether he "enjoyed continuously being in the public spotlight". Later imprisonment "as being politically subversive". Well that's one man's view.

While an author has a right to make assumptions on his subject this book of reference should, it is contended by this reviewer, have kept a neutral stance.

While correctly reporting Mosley's trip to Plymouth to help Lady Astor in her election bid, why no mention of his own successful election to parliament away from 'safe' local seats. No mention is made of his political career as a Labour MP and Minister. The despair of trying to address the problems of the early 1930s that drove him to make his own way, in order to get something done. With first hand experience in one war his fight to

stop a second catastrophe. An advocate of peace, locked up and silenced. While heavy in weight and price for anyone with more than a passing interest in "the war to end all wars" it might be worth the investment.

For a complete viewing of the 107 page Mosley Officer File visit the Public Record Office at Kew asking to look at: WO339/15781.

A LIFE OF CONTRASTS

The fast selling updated autobiography of Diana Mosley. Available now from all good booksellers.

Gibson Square Books £10.99
ISBN 1-903933-11-0

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

*"What though we ourselves
are written,
This, our faith can never
die!"*

Brewer, Cpl. A.A.J.: 2nd Btn Black Watch: Dorset British Union: age 23: Killed in action Burma 5th April 1944: Remembered on Rangoon Memorial.

Brooker, Gnr. C.G.: 90 Field Regt RA AFTER 18B British Political Prisoner 1940-42: Exeter Br. British Union: died on P.O.W. long march 8th March 1945: Remembered on Cassino Memorial, Italy.

East, Lt. Philip: 5th Btn Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders: Leytonstone British Union: age 26: killed in action Tunisia 24th April 1943. Lies in Medjez-el-Bab War Cemetery, Tunisia.

Mitford, Maj. The Hon. Tom: KRRC: NHQ Branch British Union: brother of Lady Mosley: killed in action Burma 4th April 1945. Lies in Tauckyan War Cemetery, Rangoon.

Watson, A/B Cyril: Royal Navy: Central Leeds Br Br. British Union: age 21: killed in action HMS Hardy, Narvik, April 10th 1940: Remembered on Plymouth Naval Memorial.

Rogers, Sgt/Pilot Charles Barry. RAFVR: 149 Sqn and Hackney Branch British Union: Killed in action Gelsenkirchen: Lies in Jonkerbos War Cemetery, Gelderland Holland.

14th March 1941

THE DAY THEY DIED

Until he joined RAF's Voluntary Reserve, Barry Rogers was an active member of British Union's Hackney Branch. After a handful of operations he was made Pilot and Captain of his aircraft. On his last operation one ponders whether his thoughts dwelled on his family of Mosley members whose hopes were for a Greater Britain as he was shot down by enemy fire.

One also ponders whether he had fleeting opportunity to have a pint with Raven Thomson's son Eric of the same RAF Squadron who died 5 months later over Germany as pilot of his aircraft. If our Island race survives, and it is in 2003 by no means sure, posterity will recognise the sacrifice of Mosley's young men who fulfilled that English, 'My Country, Right or Wrong'.

Sid Bailey

The overflowing chapel and dozens of floral tributes said it all. Coming just weeks after the funeral of his younger brother, Fred, the loss of Sid Bailey was a profound shock to all who knew him and valued his friendship and mutual conviction.

Born within the sound of Bow Bells, Sid was brought up in a typical East End cockney family. Honest, hard working with an over riding sense of fair play. His father, Jack, had been an active Labour Party supporter for over thirty years who became disillusioned when in power, Labour ministers did nothing to help the unemployed. At that time an equally disillusioned ex-Labour minister offered hope, dignity and action to get things done in the ranks of British Union. Jack Bailey became one of the first East End supporters of Mosley. Sid, still a school boy joined the Youth Section in Bethnal Green, later graduating to full membership of the B.U. He attended all four Albert Hall



SCHOOLBOY BLACKSHIRT. SID BAILEY IN THE YOUTH SECTION AFTER AN INSPECTION OF THE GROUP BY SIR OSWALD

meetings and was a steward at the giant Earls Court Peace Rally in 1939. After service in the Royal Air Force he joined Union Movement the day it was founded, becoming one of its most active workers. For Twenty years he maintained a pitch selling the weekly newspapers, Union and Action. He also took a leading role in Mosley's two post-war election bids. When Mosley retired from active politics in 1966, Sid, together with his brother Fred, were personally chosen to join the Mosley Directorate. They both later joined the F.O.M. Council. Sids

lack of cant was much valued by the Mosleys.

When the BBC produced the epic 26 part 'The People's Century', Sid was interviewed and included in the major series. He also contributed many thought provoking articles to Comrade.



SID ON HIS REGULAR SALES PITCH IN EAST LONDON

After the loss of his wife Rose in 1992 and his later reliance on a wheel chair, he never lost his cockney humour.

Recalling the time his father woke up in hospital to find Mosley at his bedside, Sid believed it gave his father another two years of life.

The Bailey family is irreplaceable, but we who are left can be inspired by such lives. The work goes on. Better to try, than to do nothing.



SID BAILEY ACCOMPANYING SIR OSWALD AT A TRAFALGAR SQUARE MEETING

Our Fred

Following the announcement of Fred Bailey's recent death, we have received a number of letters of appreciation. Apart from the heart felt sorrow of his passing, many recall incidents that brought them in touch with him.



'In conversation with Fred the topic got round to the increase of muggings in my area of London. At that point he stopped me talking and corrected me 'not muggings - robbery with violence'. Of course he was right. How easy it is to slip into a wet liberal attitude in downgrading aspects of violence.

In my last conversation with Fred the Middle East conflict came up, particularly the Gaza Strip. No said Fred 'Strip Gaza'.

A phone call from the Leader asked Fred to come round to his flat in London as the central heating wasn't working. He arrived and soon found that O.M. had not turned it on at the mains. To which Mosley replied 'Every man to his trade eh Bailey'

On another occasion Fred, whose normal attire never included a necktie, arrived at OM's London flat for a spot of repair work followed by a light lunch. OM looked at the unfamiliar adornment beneath the Bailey collar and laughed 'it's alright Fred, no need for a tie!'

In answering his phone one evening Fred was assailed with threats of a beating up. To which Fred replied 'you'd better come round soon, I'm going to bed in ten minutes'

Fred, we all miss you.

All correspondence to:
BCM/FOM
LONDON
WCIN3XX



Margaret Garnett (nee Monk) | Secretary to the Leader of British Union 1934-40.



Later married John Garnett, the well known BU National

Inspector and Prospective BU Parliamentary Candidate for Harwich.

For the Record: After the War several different sources raised the question of whether Margaret had been a spy planted at BU National Headquarters by Special Branch or by Maxwell Knight, the MI5 Officer responsible for the surveillance of British Union. In 1991 FOM asked Margaret if there was any truth in the suggestions and she emphatically denied it replying: 'This does not apply to either myself or my husband'

Mary Winn

Mary Winn was the daughter of Tommy Nicol, a well-known London Blackshirt who was active throughout the lifetime of British Union. Like her father, Mary joined the pre-War Movement in its earliest days and continued as an active member of Union Movement – campaigning tirelessly to bring the message of European Socialism to south London. This culminated in her standing as Union Movement candidate for Greenwich in the last London County Council borough elections in 1966. Mary's loyalty to Oswald Mosley remained undiminished despite the passing of almost 70 years. Her Husband, Arthur tells us that despite his loss and his own health problems, 'the Mosley Movement remains the major interest of my life.'

Len Fenn

Len Fenn was the last B.U District Leader of West Leyton Branch and a frequent speaker, particularly in East London. After his wartime 18B incarceration he returned to the fray to speak for the fledgling Union Movement in East London until, like many others, survival became the name of the game and had to retire from active support. He nevertheless remained

staunch in his beliefs and on a BU/UM Reunion he wrote 'I have been retired for the past 14 years and am no longer active. I do remember the past and the friends I once knew. I cannot be with you but my good wishes for a happy reunion.'

Fr. Brocard Sewell



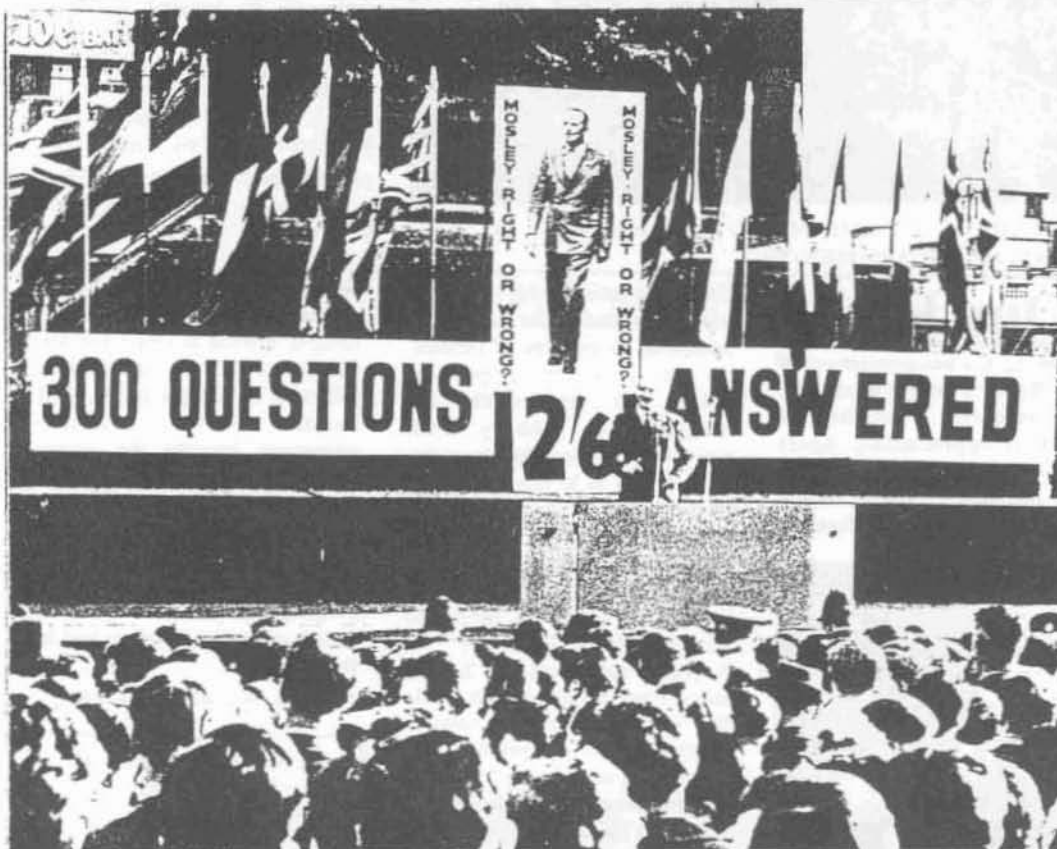
A life of two halves literary and religious might sum up the enriched life of Michael Seymour Sewell.

Born in Bangkok, his childhood was spent at Launceston in Cornwall. Educated at Weymouth College, his early adult life was acting as P.A. to the secretary of the Distributist League an organisation that believed in widespread small ownership, small holdings, small farms, small shops held together co-operatively with legislation to prevent state monopoly and mass production. At the same time he acted as General Factotum in the office of Chesterton's paper G.K. Weekly. After being received into the Roman Catholic church he became a member of the Guild of St. Joseph and St. Dominic a

craftsmen's community that included printing. While never a member of British Union he did subscribe to its weekly newspaper Action. After a wartime in the Royal Air Force he took holy orders and became an ordained priest at Aylesford where he founded a magazine concentrating on Carmelite thought. This quickly widened to inclusive social issues of the day. After publishing a contentious article about the H bomb Cardinal Griffin of Westminster took great exception and in the ensuing row had him removed to 'exile' in Canada for five years. In the University of Nova Scotia he lectured among other subjects on writers of the 1890s. Returning in the 1970s he pursued a literary career by writing no less than 16 memoirs and biographies. He maintained a close friendship with the Mosleys and often contributed to the magazine Lodestar, attending a number of Union Movement Dinners and socials leading onto F.O.M. organised gatherings. In the early 1990s he wrote his autobiography 'The Habit of a Lifetime'.

LOGON-LOOKIN-LEARN
WWW.OSWALDMOSLEY.COM

MOSLEY – RIGHT OR WRONG 8TH OCTOBER 1961



What better way to launch a new paperback than in Trafalgar Square. Dedicated 'to my companions' this book contains over 300 questions and answers.



With section headings such as Europe a Nation, Social problems, Africa and Race,

Science, Agriculture, Press and Television, Blackshirt Movement, the reader is offered a chance to understand the policies of the BUF and Union Movement.

A number of copies of the original printing have become available and are now for sale at £2.00 each (including postage).

Note: all copies are complete and in good condition, but due to storage over forty years they have become a little grubby.

Write your cheque for £2.00, payable to F.O.M. and send to BCM/FOM, London, WCIN 3XX.

COMRADE

Incorporating ACTION and UNION

Newsletter of Friends of OM



'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'

No.56

SHAMELESSLY NATION EUROPA

OCTOBER 2003

DIANA – OUR FRIEND

Without exaggeration it can be said that she was loved and admired by all who knew her and, hated and demonised with an exhaustible tenacity surely unique in our times, by some who had never met her, or otherwise in the rancorous grip of prejudices and values axiomatic in the media.

A.N.Wilson writing in the Daily Telegraph described Lady Mosley, who died in August aged 93, as "a gentle, hilarious companion, an adored mother, grandmother and great grandmother, and a friend whose conversations and letters I miss already miss with aching sadness." Daphne Guinness in a letter to the same paper wrote, "I am unequivocally proud to have been her granddaughter, and consider it a privilege to have known her."

We of "Comrade" who knew Lady Mosley, feel likewise privileged. Much is made of her pre-war political associations (a case of the light ingredients scarcely worth the cooking) but after Holloway's Horrors it was in the post-war years when the going was especially tough, that Diana Mosley's public support for her husband's political work was most conspicuous.

Not on the platform or in demonstrations, for in no way was Diana Mosley in the real sense of the word, a political animal. She took an intelligent and clear-eyed view of issues and events, identified wholly with her husband and soul-mate of a devoted 40 year marriage. That and no more.



LADY MOSLEY AMONG A GROUP OF F.O.M. SUPPORTERS

But for this, along with her refusal to truckle, trim and compromise with the truth as she saw it, she was denounced with all the malice and drivel of the Establishment and media. It was to prove a vendetta that has now reached beyond the grave.

Lady M was in the enthusiastic audience at the East London meeting at which Sir Oswald launched Union Movement in February 1948. And thereafter she was a familiar figure at UM gatherings, at home with all manner of people; warm, appreciative, charming, ever supportive, a buoyant spirit of courage, delight and inspiration. And with her editorship of the "The European", her diary in the "Action" of the early 'sixties, and later books of memoir and the national literary reviews, we saw another of her gifts, that of perceptive, and amusing writing. "Diana's style" wrote James Lee Milne, reviewing the first edition of "A Life of Contrasts", "is better than Nancy's."

After the formation of the Friends of OM, Lady Mosley was a regular guest of honour at the twice-yearly FOM dinners, on May Day and again in November, commemorating her late husband's birthday. And right to the close of her life she retained a lively interest in "Comrade", in touch with its Editor as well as other old comrades such as that fine East London veteran Fred Bailey, who died last year, and of whom she was especially fond.

Of course the lie and bile will continue to spew from the editorial offices, documentary film makers studios, and a few creepy establishment historians. Much of the posthumous attack has been beneath contempt. Insofar as it is worth noting, it seems to fall under two headings; Diana Mosley's "Disgusting and monstrous" opinions, and her personal miniature observations of Hitler, which in contrast to the inclinations of those with lesser integrity, she saw no reason to amend.

What is the exact nature of these supposedly "loathsome"

opinions? Her undying admiration for her husband?, a conviction that the last war was avoidable, and had been a disaster for Britain and Europe? Her post-war espousal of European Union? We are not told.

As for her impressionistic observations of Hitler in moments of relaxation, she has written, "It is possible – just possible – it may be worth while to set down the truth about these little things in so far as I know it from my own observations." But since these do not accord with the obligatory Charlie Chaplin-type caricatures, Diana Mosley was damned, not least by court historians like Andrew Roberts (not to be confused with the serious historian, the late J.M. Roberts).

And here was seen another of those paradoxes surrounding Lady Mosley and her enemies, the fact that she possessed in abundance the easy generosity of mind and spirit to which the "liberal" and self-styled "progressive" lays exclusive claim and which all too often is the polar opposite of their true selves.

Those of us who knew Diana Mosley were aware that we were in the presence and shared comradeship of a great and lovely lady, one of the most remarkable of the age. And we too are "unequivocally proud" to have been her companions in this mortal journey.

She was our steadfast comrade, a staunch, enchanting friend and beacon. It might be said that like Beatrice in "Much Ado", Diana Mosley was "born under a star that danced." And through all the sunlight and storms of the years, it will remain a dance without end. P.K.

Diana Mosley

22 April 2003

Once again, thank you so
very much for all you do for OM

In memoriam

MOSLEY. Remembered in sorrow but with a smile, DIANA, who like Helen could have launch'd a thousand ships.
John W. F.O.M.

Dear Sir,

Many who remember Diana Mosley as kind and friendly may share my disappointment and even anger at several remarks made as soon as she was unable to answer back in her usual incisive manner.

Not just odd statements about her "spiky" handwriting or penny-dreadful wartime nonsense that she was "more dangerous than her husband" and would "stop at nothing", but empty epithets – "viper", "demon", "potty but dangerous", etc – from the vitriol tank of hack journalism.

Sadly the silliest came from visitors hospitality fed and courteously entertained, who had fawned on the Mosleys at the time. Two pages of unmitigated abuse in the Daily Mail (for ever trying to live down its pre-war hoorays for the Blackshirts) came from a self-styled researcher into Mosley's writings, which did not stop him falsely asserting that his nearly "senile" host opposed "political rights" for Africans, and then salaciously depicting Lady Mosley as an elderly coquette.

During her lifetime some comments could well have been actionable, especially those in a newspaper owned once by a British Empire crusader but now by a Porn Empire mogul. The Daily Express even printed a letter suggesting she would have put thousands into concentration-camps and an article saying she wanted to turn the writer's Jewish parents into "soap".

Another former guest said that Diana approved the "slaughter" of Jews, and elsewhere it was again alleged that she had once suggested that gassing was too kind for them: complete fabrications, and the exact opposite of all her recorded statements on this sensitive subject. The usual pretext for such garbage is her refusal either to join in ill-informed attacks on her husband's politics or to retract her personal observations about Hitler. She said she had grown "fond" of him before the war, never that she approved Nazi actions against Jews during the war her husband tried to prevent.

In fact, her close, detailed and interesting peacetime experiences of Hitler and his circle are valuable to serious historians. They add factual information to the whole picture. For example, her story of his comment on race theory that Sweden had the "purest Nordics" but had only given the world Gustavus Adolphus!

It would have been dishonest to falsify past recollections like the "memory-hole" operatives in 1984. And note that the brilliant author of that novel, the "democratic socialist" George Orwell, himself admitted that he was unable to "dislike Hitler" whose achievements had depended on an attractive personality.

Favourable contemporary impressions of Germany's leader are also indelibly recorded from others – Arnold Toynbee, Anthony Eden, Lloyd George, Sven Hedin, Winifred Wager, etc. As Hitler's longest-serving secretary put it, "It is hard to believe today, but he was very charming in his private ways."

The Mosleys condemned the ill-treatment and killing of innocent people during the war. They dared also to condemn atrocities committed by those with other ideologies. In this they differed from much-feted "left-wing" writers who said Soviet dominated Britain and Europe would be a desirable option or that the global triumph of communism would justify the murder of millions.

Why should condemnation still focus almost exclusively on one set of "perpetrators" and compassion perpetuated for only one set of "victims"? Why should academics be free to dispute in detail other reported genocides but special laws introduced to suppress discussion in one particular case?

Will Tom Stacey now be shunned for saying that Idi Amin had blood up to his elbows but also "admirable qualities"? Has not Tony Blair been called a war criminal? Has Putin killed more Chechens than Stalin?

Diana Mosley, of course, knew many other, quite different famous people, from Winston Churchill to Evelyn Waugh, and wrote with equal candour about them all. She too was a famous person and history one day will tell the truth.

Yours sincerely,

Derek Johnson

AN HONoured GUEST

Since its formation in 1982, Lady Mosley was pleased to embrace the work of the Friends of Mosley. On numerous occasions, she showed practical support attending a number of our functions.



1985: COMMEMORATION DINNER



1988: ANNIVERSARY DINNER



1996: CENTENARY CELEBRATION OF SIR OSWALD MOSLEY'S BIRTH



2000: 90TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION OF LADY MOSLEY IN PARIS

EUROPE IS LOSING THE PLOT

By Peter Kennedy

Iain Duncan Smith is said to be drawing up a policy document on his party's position on Europe. Seers and crystal-ball gazers stay your hand; lockstep obedience to US policy and global interests needless to say, is the core, determining value, and the litmus test of EU acceptability to party thinking and sentiment. Such is the spiritual reduction ad absurdum of modern Conservatism. As an instrument of national policy and integrity, more honour is to be forthcoming playing the piano in a cat house.

If the Prime Minister's position is sometimes marginally less obsequious in its transatlantic cravenness, on Europe Blair has handed Duncan Smith a high playable card with his characteristic attempt to wriggle out of a national referendum on major constitutional and monetary issues. Democracy in Baghdad but not in Blighty. Oh dear me no! He's that kinda guy. So where stands Europe, 55 years after Oswald Mosley first called for British leadership in the creation of Europe a Nation? With European union now a fact, an historical development of awesome dimensions, should we not be rejoicing? Well "up to a point, Lord Copper."

For in most respects the Europe that has evolved is far from the Europe that OM conceived and campaigned for with vision and passion.

In truth – and for many comrade readers what followers will be seen as heresy – I would argue that the form and character union has taken is to a great degree the stuff of disappointment and alarm, proceeding along lines neither of our choosing nor philosophy. The destination board may read "European Union" but no one should be deceived. The drivers have been using a very different route map and the European people find themselves in what is very much not the Promised Land. How did it go wrong? Half a century ago, the Western European nations, victors and vanquished, lay stricken, impoverished, living largely on US charity and confronted by an expansionist Soviet Union.

Moved along and alarmed by a needless tragedy that he and his movement had done all in their means to avert, Mosley responded in characteristic fashion.

Alone in his insights into the changed international situation, and stirred by our common European heritage and a faith in its peoples, along with the necessity of cultural and spiritual

re-birth, Mosley advanced "The Vision Splendid" with Britain in the vanguard of the movement for union.

Here was a self-confident "Third Force", very different in form and character from both capitalism and communism, uncowed by the Soviets (with whom peaceful co-existence was fundamental) and independent of but friendly towards the USA.



MOSLEY SPEAKS 8TH OCTOBER 1950. THE FIRST OF 12 SUCCESSFUL POST-WAR TRAFALGER SQUARE MEETINGS

Europe in Mosley's thinking, would achieved stability and social and economic advancement only within an insulated economic system. This was the logical sequel to that which he and British Union had advocated for Britain and the Empire, the foundations and potential of which had been destroyed by the recent World War.

All this be it remembered, at a time when a complacent and self-deluding party political consensus prated on about Britain as middle man between Europe, the USA and the Commonwealth (a dewy-eyed attachment to the latter permitting where it did not encourage, the mass black/brown immigration whose profound social and genetic consequences are all about us.)

TAKING ACCOUNT

So far has European union measured up to these pragmatic and noble aspirations? Very little I would argue – and I am not speaking of the bloated waste and self-serving bureaucracy, the nit-picking interference, institutional arrogance, and financial corruption.

For a start take the once all-consuming issue of war and peace that Armageddon-like hung over the first five decades of the post-war world. This has been resolved, for the moment at any rate, by the dramatic collapse of Communism. For Blair, Britain's armed forces now exists less for national defence that for putting its life and limb on the line in furtherance of his witless global busy-bodying, usually at the service of the White House and its New World Order and Zionist advisers and enforcers. And here of course, Duncan Smith would

the EU is signed up to the World Trade Organisation, as committed to the globalist racket almost as much as Britain and the US establishments.

As for sustaining and advancing European civilisation and the distinctive qualities, contribution and potential of its peoples, to raise this point is to court the risk of a midnight visit from the agents of the Thought Police.

The EU and in varying degrees the governing establishments of member states, are as aggressively "multi-culturalist" and PC as anything dreamt up by the Guardianistas. Look for example at the relentless and penal persecution of independent-minded historians, the cooking-up of vicious Orwellian "laws", or the treatment handed out to Haider and his country when the Austrians dared to vote for an end to third world immigration. How did this all come about? The answer is only too obvious – "plus ça change."

Even more than a new political philosophy, a creed for a new age, Mosley believed in the need for new and higher types of men and women as instigators of change and regeneration. Perhaps this was always too fanciful and Utopian. Whatever: the cold fact is that Britain and Europe is run by the same old types. And from this flaw all else flows.

Of course the greater European collective identity and self-confidence is to be counted on the credit side – among modern British Conservatives of course an impertinent act of lese majeste against the USA and its presumptions of world hegemony. And these have been gains in other fields such as interstate co-operation.

But all in all hardly a re-assuring or inspiring score board. Certainly not for Union Movement veterans who aspired to something altogether nobler and more constructive.

So time for a re-assessment, and some answers to the question, "What form should of our European Idea take 55 years on?" To sleepwalk under the spell of of maxims is to ignore the realities of the changed situation and the divergence between precept and actuality. It is absurd as it is unworthy. Let all things be discussed and debated.

THE GREATER STRUGGLE

The two greatest challenges to the European and European civilisation are trans-national finance-capitalism – which

be even more of a Washington toady than Blair.

But if the threat of a European nuclear war has all but expired, as always issues of British and European economic stability remain. And in the gathering storm of global free trade and deregulation and amid the subservience of governments to rootless finance-capitalism, we see a catastrophe which the Old Gang parties here and on the Continent, haven't the slightest notion how to combat. How can they when the are all in favour?

So on the central, classic Mosley principal of an insulated European economy giving protection and stability against the consequences of low wage import penetration, forget it. Not only is it attempting to digest low wage populations from the eastern margins of Europe, but

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

Television

Diana Mosley:

Adolf, Oswald and Me

For an appreciable number of years Diana Mosley had refused all requests for television interviews. It was history repeating itself, as Sir Oswald followed the same policy in later years, when proposed interviews became nothing more than bearing witness to other peoples' lives.

In 1998, a proposal was put forward to Lady Mosley that a television documentary should be made of her life but its screening would be embargoed until after her death. As agreement had already been reached on the same terms with the author Anne de Courcy regarding a book. The idea was accepted. Two major interviews took place. One at Orsay and a second at her central Paris apartment.

A MISSED OPPORTUNITY

A late change to the title: 'Diana Mosley: Adolf, Oswald and Me' should have set the alarm bells ringing. Alas, the hour-long feature documentary shown in prime time on Channel Four became obsessed with her friendship with Hitler. At least Diana was given the chance to put the case for her admiration of Germany. "Politics there has solved problems which were very acute in England, like

unemployment and poverty and of course that was seen as a miracle".

As a definitive programme, her family were encouraged to contribute. In the interests of 'balance', the inclusion of such writers as David Pryce-Jones could be relied upon to deliver their standard mantra. The inclusion of just one B.U.F. member brought things back to reality. "When Oswald Mosley came onto the platform and started speaking he held everyone spellbound. He was an extremely good orator but not just hot air. There was thought and intellect behind what he was saying but also at the time you felt an ennoblement - you could strive for something up and beyond yourself". Here was insight that must have been a real life-force behind such an enduring marriage.

The post-war Union Movement in which Diana took such an important part was disposed of in 47 seconds.

Obviously a considerable amount of the two in depth interviews were never used. One can only hope this excised footage will survive for another generation to make a more balanced story. At least Lady Mosley was accorded the final words:

"I still feel he was so right and what we did is the best we could" Amen to that.



Exhibition

Heroes and Villains

National Portrait Gallery

Gerald Scarfe, the well-known caricaturist turns his attention to thirty-five British icons, already enshrined in the Nation's collection. As a contrast to these more formal portraits, diverse names such as Thatcher, Emin, Darwin, Branson, Currie, Baird and Cromwell receive the classic Scarfe treatment.

Included among the names is Sir Oswald Mosley. Once again, the obsessiveness with pre-war Germany is emphasised. A goose-stepping Mosley is entwined with a swastika! Anyone with a thought towards historical accuracy is entitled to

question why Sir Oswald is involved with the German nationalist symbol. Had the artist incorporated the BRITISH flash and circle, the first to laugh would undoubtedly have been the portrayed.

Sir Oswald Mosley was the quintessential Englishman who always stood-up for his country but equally admiring of European Nations who got things right. The perceived Hero or Villain extended to the written word. Lady Mosley was invited to write in defence of her husband. Again, she rose to the challenge with her customary brilliance putting the grotesque to shame.

MOSLEY

RIGHT OR WRONG?

Published in 1961 this paperback soon became a best seller. Dedicated to 'My Companions' it consisted of over 300 questions with Mosley's detailed answers.

Some original copies are still available at £2 each.

Cheques payable to FOM.

Send to: BCM/FOM.

London. WC1N 3XX.

Due to storage, slight defects may be present.

EUROPE IS LOSING THE PLOT

threaten jobs, living conditions and social cohesion - and third - world mass immigration, which is poised to destroy for ever national identity, a process which in parts of Britain has already concluded with the flight of the white race.

I take as core values the need to protect and nourish our common European civilisation, and to safeguard the livelihoods, values and living standards of the European peoples. Both are under attack from the forces of financial and cultural imperialism - in shorthand; Globalism. And it is clear that the present system and the prevailing political and social philosophy here and among the EU ruling circles are central to the problem.

Here is my prescription.

• First the European nations, individually and collectively, withdraw from that overbearing, unelected enforcer of Globalist free trade, the World Trade Organisation and all its works.

In its place the EU nations should erect a protective

import barrier, while concluding whenever there is mutual benefit, bi-lateral trading agreements with non-EU nations. In other words, the economic system should be at the service of the people and their communities, not as now, the other way round.

Europe should help African and other Third World nations develop their own regional economic systems, resistant to globalist corporations and predatory finance, and becoming where possible self-sufficient, above all in foodstuffs.

place!

As things stand the EU establishment interferes and imposes by stealth and diktat, a sure prescription for the ensuing resentment, familiar here in Britain above all. The answer? - Power to the people, and put the principal of subsidiarity - maximum decentralisation - into effect; a reality no longer a cliché.

Abolish that bloated talking shop the European Parliament (with MEPS from Kerry to the foothills of Asia Minor!)

Decisions should be made from the ground up beginning with the

Peter Kennedy's personal and radical proposals for the future of Europe are certain to be contentious. We welcome readers comments and counter-proposals.

• The second area of fundamental reform is the entire machinery of decision-making. Europe can only be made by the consent and involvement of the people at local, national and European, levels. Put the bureaucrats and gravy-train career politicians firmly in their

family and the local, and then when appropriate, moving on through regional and national levels. Put an end to the absurd idea that what might be appropriate for the needs, character and heritage of one nation must be right for the rest, and imposed to uniform effect. Nothing is more ruinous to the

European Spirit and Ideal.

In this new order the ultimate European governmental level would concern itself with fewer issues, with defence, diplomacy, transport, economic and trade issues, population movements, and the environment the most obvious. Such would be the responsibilities of a Council of Ministers drawn from member nations, their decisions overseen by a small, working European Parliament. And implementing these arrangements a Commission stripped of its present powers and pretensions, and returned to its original role as an administrative secretariat. It will be said that these proposals fall far short of Mosley's great post-war concept. I would argue that the Europe of the EU has developed a character so much at odds with what OM stood for, threatened the real interests of the European peoples, and has so alienated the British and other Europeans, that great change is vital.

As Mosley said back in the mid-50s, our dogma is not restrictive formula but effective action.

British Union was nothing without its countless thousands of devoted members and supporters.

Enormous sacrifices were made in time and money so that a creditable political force could be built in the shortest possible time.

Aubrey Monk a lifetime supporter of Mosley gives a snapshot impression of life at Branch level.

LIFE AT THE SHARP END

Croydon Branch of the BUF had been formed for some time before I joined in 1934 at the age of 17.

The branch had just moved into new premises from London Road half a mile away from the town centre on two floors at 42 High Street. A prime position looking down Katharine Street where Croydon Town Hall stood, a large forecourt saw frequent gatherings and meetings, including ours.

It was immediately apparent to me as a youngster how many people visited the branch premises from all walks of life and all ages too. There was always something going on. The active uniformed members spent much time, especially on Saturdays, selling **Blackshirt** and **Action** on the streets of the town. Some older members attended the 'Thornton Heath Parliament' where current affairs were discussed. All the old parties and some independents were represented. Others took sheets of the electoral register and compared roads leaving complimentary copies of our paper. As well as soliciting orders, seeking support for us and noting new occupants names, which were compiled and passed back to the Returning Officer at the Town Hall to update the Register.

GRASS ROOTS

We had three groups of members who were supportive in many ways but not openly due to their employment. They were postmen at the Croydon sorting office, delivery roundsmen, and several inspectors at one of the bus garages in Croydon. The members in these branches were also active in their trades unions so our message reached many of their colleagues.

At the Branch some of our female member prepared tea and sandwiches, with most of the proceeds going to the Election fund. Besides cigarettes and chocolates sold to us by a member who ran a small general store we obtained and sold the E.B. (Entirely British) Cigarettes. Some personalities I recall. Old **Mr Saunders** an ardent Salvation Army member who sold our papers on the High Street in Salvation Army uniform!

Mr and Mrs Harris, he described himself as a 'British' financier. She, apparently, had been an important conservative before the BUF and trained several of us in doorstep canvassing. (I kept in contact after the war until they died).



AUBREY MONK ON THE LEFT WITH FELLOW WINNERS OF THE SALES CUP PRESENTED BY MOSLEY

Several of the young or uniformed members were keen supporters of Crystal Palace football team. They would attend 'home' matches on Saturday afternoons come back to the Branch for a cup of tea, comment on the game, happy when the team won then pick up their papers and out to sell them (they didn't riot or pick fights like today's supporters!)



A UNIFORMED AUBREY MONK IN 1934

Our District Leader, **Len Capleton**, an ex-service man like many members was much respected by us all. He smoked a pipe, which never seemed to stay alight! I can recall the smell of the tobacco smoke (Erinmore) and the constant rasp of the Swan Vestas as he lit it time after time! He would tap out letters to the local press both 'officially' and under the pseudonym of 'Just Cape' if the published letter didn't bring replies he would answer it with other points as Just Cape.

ON THE MOVE

Some of our more affluent members who owned cars in those days, transported members to the LCC elections so we could help the East End branches canvassing or delivering election material. Attendance at the big London marches/meetings meant we travelled in small parties by bus or tram meeting up on site. The other memory was of two 'national' events. **Bill Dods** and

his twin **Les Dods** and myself were one of several groups of our members who went out chalking 'Mind Britain's Business' at the time of the Italian/Abyssinian war. The other one was of joining the 'Stand by the King' demonstrations over King Edward VIII at the time when the press and Government were pushing him towards his eventual abdication.

Although we had 1 or 2 members who would speak at local meetings, there were several NHQ speakers (**Raven Thomson**, **Pat Ryan**) who spoke on the Town Hall site. **O.M.** came to Croydon 3 times, 2 meetings in the old public halls and once when we were presented with the Sales Cup. Besides out sales in the streets, there were sales to members delivered by volunteers on cycles, others were buying their copies through nearby newsagents: we had about 10 newsagents who took copies each week. This increased our sales! In the run up to the outbreak of World War II groups of us attended the Peace rallies and we hired a coach to take stewards and members to OM's Earls Court meeting.

With both the increase in membership and the division of Croydon into Croydon South and Croydon North for Parliamentary elections, we also hived off members and some officers for a separate Croydon North Branch. An occasional visitor to the branch was **Geoffrey Dorman**. He was quite a character and I recall him working as a uniformed cinema attendant for a while.

Those of us who visited the branch most nights before starting 'work' also socialised together. I remember one or two country walks on a Sunday, also going to concerts at the Oasis Theatre when Sir Thomas Beecham brought an orchestra to play popular classics. **Sorry to say no thugs or morons beloved of our gutter press were members of the Croydon Branch.**



A UNIFORMED GROUP OF CROYDON MEMBERS MARCH THROUGH BURGESS HILL.

"SIX YEARS OF CREATIVE THINKING AND WIDE DISCUSSION HAVE AT LEAST CLARIFIED ALL IMMEDIATE ISSUES. WE NOW ENTER A PHASE OF INTENSIVE POLITICAL ACTION WITH ITS MASS APPEAL AND MORE DECISIVE ELECTORAL TESTS. WHAT NOW MATTERS MOST IS DIRECT POLITICAL ACTION"

THE EUROPEAN: THE JOURNAL OF OPPOSITION

by Adrian Pearce

After 72 monthly editions Sir Oswald Mosley closed a literary chapter on a publication that had created a breakthrough in political thought in this country.

In the 1930s it was recognised that political action in the form of marches and meetings needed to be matched by intellectual argument and thought in order to strengthen the fundamental philosophy of Mosley's British Union. The weekly **BLACKSHIRT** and later **ACTION** newspapers partly filled that void.

In January 1935, a continuous flow of policy documents and pamphlets was complemented by the launch of **THE FASCIST QUARTERLY**. Here at last was a magazine giving a platform to writers to put down at length the polemics of the age. Hugh Ross Williamson, Maj.-Gen. J.F.C. Fuller, R.Gordon-Canning, Henry Williamson and Ezra Pound were just a few of the well known writers who regularly contributed thought provoking articles. Backing this up were the top officials of British Union. A. Raven Thomson, E.D. Hart, W.J. Leaper, A.K. Chesterton, all helped give the publication enormous status. It offered space to articles diverse as *Psychology of Collective Caesarism*, *Decline of Feudalism*, *Salvaging the Children of Malaga*, together with chapters questioning government policy on rearmament and foreign policy.

CATCHING UP

The in-depth intellectual argument was no stranger to the left. It was a lesson that the Communists had long since learned. Ventures such as the Left Book Club together with the myriad grouping of front organisations and fellow travellers had created a myth that the word 'intellectual' and 'communism' were interchangeable. It was an uphill struggle for Mosley and British Union to equal the Left's strategy but the *Quarterly*, which mutated into the **British Union Quarterly** in January 1937, did make an impact and was a success. Publication ceased in the spring of 1940 when the whole British Union organisation was shut down by diktat of the government.

REBIRTH

Since the launch of Union Movement on the 7th February 1948, the political and intellectual arguments of the time had found a partial voice in the weekly newspaper **UNION**. The Mosley's publishing house **EUPHORION** had never been a vehicle for political thought. Its reputation had been based on reprints of much loved classics, together with the nurturing of new authors, culminating in the phenomenally successful **STUKA PILOT**.

By this time the Mosleys had left their island prison and established a base at Clonfert in County Galway. As Mosley explained, his overriding purpose in leaving Britain was to make himself a European and to get away from the "Dull spite, the petty obstruction of the British official world, to get beyond the reach of troglodytes who impede his liberty". At the same time as settling in Ireland they purchased a near derelict property just twenty kilometres from Paris, in a town called Orsay in the Chevreuse Valley. This was later to become their main and much loved permanent home.

EXTENDING THE WORD

After four years of hectic activity establishing a new political party, the need was again felt for a publication to take the case for Europe a Nation a stage further. On 1st March 1953 the monthly



THE FRONT COVER OF THE FIRST EDITION OF THE EUROPEAN

magazine **THE EUROPEAN** was launched. Priced at 3/6 (17.5p) later reducing to 2/- (10p) this 63-page quality, bound, publication was available for extended policy and debate. In its statement of intent, **THE EUROPEAN** underlined a search for truth and clarity. "The aim to be neither common-place or pretentious. The assumption not to know everything, but to discover the facts of science and nature. An analytical review of literature, politics, art and the diverse components of culture, within the living and developing organism of modern Europe". Over six years and seventy-two issues, its high ideals were amply fulfilled.

NUTS AND BOLTS

Diana Mosley, who contributed a 'must-read' diary covering the widest range of topics, broken down into the renowned Mitford acerbic and pithy insights, took up editorship of the magazine. Sir

Sir Oswald Mosley, February 1959



LADY MOSLEY DURING HER TIME AS EDITOR OF THE EUROPEAN

Oswald, apart from articles in his name, wrote a monthly 'Analysis' under the pen name **EUROPEAN**.

In its first issue the case of Ezra Pound was examined. Here was a man who since the war had been confined without charge or trial to a United States lunatic asylum this was identical to the way Stalin dealt with intellectuals, who had the courage and honesty to speak out. In Denis Goacher, the magazine had a writer who was prepared to take up the so-called democratic West's scandalous behaviour to a world-famous author and poet. His article in the first edition **DR LEAVIS** or **MR POUND** went onto the attack. This and subsequent articles revived interest in the case of Pounds, no charge - no trial incarceration. Critical comments on his writings, and ensuing debate, culminated in his release in 1958. One of the major success stories of the magazine. In addition, the bombing of Dresden was critically looked at, also a number of thought provoking titles: *Spender Spent*; *Crisis in Contemporary Britain*; *Obscurity in Modern Poetry* and *Where The Businessman Rides High*. Even an article on *The Case for a National Lottery* was explored. Henry Williamson, one of the pre-war writers, contributed numerous articles together with giving a voice to a new younger talent. Alan Neame; Desmond Stewart (who had first been published by *Euphorion*); Roy

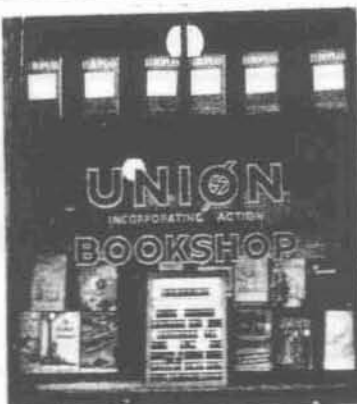


MOSLEY SPEAKING AT KENSINGTON TOWN HALL WITH THE EUROPEAN BANNER AS A BACKDROP

Macgregor-Hastie, together with Oswald Piro, a leading South African politician who embraced the Mosley policy; Jacques Brousse; Maurice Rowdon; Michael Harold and Louis Mainwaring-Gardner were just a few of the many contributors. John Haycock, who later became a well-known novelist, wrote brilliantly for the *European*.

MEETING THE DEADLINE

The practicalities of sustaining a monthly publication were formidable. A central London office acted as the clearing house. Jeffrey Hamm, a loyal ex 18b prisoner, later to become Mosley's personal secretary was the *EUROPEAN*'s managing editor. Each month proof copies were taken to Clonfert or Orsay for checking. On his return the corrected sheets were retyped and taken onto Southend to meet the printer's deadline.



TOP SHELF DYNAMITE! THE SHOP WINDOW OF UNION MOVEMENT DISPLAYS COPIES OF THE *EUROPEAN*

was rather noisy". As Hamm commented, "He was a hard taskmaster but drove himself harder. What was he like? Always a man of courage, a true aristocrat: a man of the people".

STANDING ALONE

The big breakthrough for the *EUROPEAN* was the acceptance for distribution by the all powerful newspaper and magazine wholesalers. This meant newsagents and station bookstalls displayed copies on their shelves. This helped enormously with the continued financing of the publication. With the Cold War at its height, a number of other anti-soviet publications were also displayed on bookshop shelves. In Frances Stoner Saunders book *WHO PAID THE PIPER* (Granta Books) it is revealed that the American Central Intelligence Agency was active in subsidising a wide range of pro-western publications. *PARTISAN REVIEW*; *NEW LEADER* and *ENCOUNTER*. All received hidden bounty. This last magazine certainly shared shelf space with *THE EUROPEAN*. It can definitely be stated that the Mosleys never received any C.I.A. monies often disguised as grants from respected and long-standing charitable foundations. It survived on merit alone, during its six years of life. A honourable record untainted by American hegemony.

In his book, *ACTION REPLAY* Hamm recalls a monthly rendezvous in Le Havre as the Mosleys were holidaying in Normandy. The 'about lunchtime' meeting saw Hamm at the appointed hotel but no sign of the Mosleys. An hour passed, a drink was purchased. The patron asked if I was lunching I declined, anticipating lunch with them when they arrived. I bought a second drink and sipped it slowly; all the other guests had lunched. At three p.m. they arrived with apologies for the delay, but no word of lunch. Presumably thinking I had eaten. "We have a lot to do" said Sir Oswald as he ushered me into the lounge. He began to dictate and I typed furiously. If other guests dared to disturb us with their chatter, they were frozen into silence. The patron came to ask if we were taking a room but he was waved aside. By the middle of the evening, the work was completed and a bottle of wine was ordered. Mosley did not stay to drink it commenting, "I don't think we'll come here again, it

MOVING ON

By 1959 after 72 issues, the magazine had done its job. With the coming General Election, in which Sir Oswald was to contest the North Kensington seat, it was a fitting time to cease publication. All resources needed to be refocused on the coming struggle. As Mosley said "The purpose of *THE EUROPEAN* is fulfilled". In his book, 'OSWALD MOSLEY' Robert Skidelsky praises *THE EUROPEAN* as "An impressive achievement containing some of Mosley's best polemical writings. The magazine attracted some excellent and serious writers". Diana Mosley recently commented, "The political side of *THE EUROPEAN* has lost its actuality but it is a reminder of Mosley's farsightedness".

WE ARE PLEASED TO RECORD THE ASSISTANCE OF LADY MOSLEY IN THE PREPARATION OF THIS ARTICLE

SUNSHINE AND SHADOWS



Twenty-six years ago, Diana Mosley, published her autobiography 'A Life of Contrasts'. It attracted rave reviews 'witty and amusing' 'A candid page-turning memoir' 'An autobiography of real distinction' Encouraged, she went on to write distinguished books on her friendships with the **Duchess of Windsor** (1980) and **Loved Ones**, a compendium profile of close and loyal friends, which included an enlightened chapter on Sir Oswald.

In 2002, Lady Mosley was approached with the idea of re-publishing **A Life of Contrasts** with some additions covering the intervening years.

The result has once again become a best seller already going into reprint.

Utterly absorbing Irish Independent
Wholly if grittily a Mitford book Times
Sharp, amusing and well-written New Statesman
Engrossing Evening Standard
She is a wonderful writer BBC Radio 4
Incapable of being dull ...

An autobiography of real distinction Sunday Times

Just some of the current accolades.

The additional good news is that the publishers have lowered the price! It is now available for £8.99 from all good booksellers.

Gibson Square Books ISBN: 1-903933-20-X

Who stitched up William Swift, Patriot not Traitor?

By George W. Swift.

There was quite an active branch of British Union in Portsmouth before the last War. The driving force of the Pompey Blackshirts was Vice Admiral Powell. Apart from being the town's District Leader he was also the BU Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for this important naval port.

Once war was declared, Powell felt he could no longer campaign for peace while his country was at war and withdrew from membership. His decision was respected by the Leader though the majority of Blackshirts continued to fight for 'Peace with Honour, Empire Intact and British People Safe'.

Fred Watts took over as District Leader and William Swift, a 57-year-old warehouseman, became Assistant District Leader (Sales). There were 70 card carrying members of the movement in Portsmouth in the Spring of 1940 and a vigorous campaign was carried out on the streets to put across Mosley's peace proposals. This included large street meetings and regular door-to-door sales of 'Action'.

Fred became rather concerned about a local woman member called Mrs Ingram. She had been born in Germany but acquired British citizenship when she married an English RAF pilot. The problem was, she was always telling people how wonderful she thought Hitler was. This was not British Union's policy and was clearly inviting trouble in 1940. So Fred wrote to her telling her in no uncertain terms not to attend any more British Union meetings or attempt to speak for the movement.



VICE ADMIRAL POWELL IN BLACKSHIRT UNIFORM

A 'CHANCE' MEETING WITH MR RASHLEIGH

Mrs Ingram was employed as a cleaner for a high ranking Royal Navy officer. One day she met a man called Cecil Rashleigh who was painting the flat where she worked. They fell into

conversation and Mrs Ingram told Rashleigh that she was a fascist and believed the war was wrong. Rashleigh agreed with her and asked if he could join British Union.

Mrs Ingram directed Rashleigh to William Swift's house in Copythorne Road. They had a long talk which ended in Rashleigh joining British Union and being issued with a paid-up membership card. In the course of the talk Rashleigh told Swift he was unemployed. The Assistant District Leader suggested that Rashleigh should join the newly formed Home Guard in the mistaken belief that it offered paid employment.

The new member said he had a friend in the Army who was very disgruntled and asked if he could bring him along to their next meeting. This was agreed and a few days later Cecil Rashleigh introduced Corporal Joseph Baron to Swift and Mrs Ingram. The general policy of British Union was discussed.

WATTS, INGRAM AND SWIFT ARRESTED

A few days later, the police raided Watts' home at 56 Orchard Road, which was also the District Headquarters for Portsmouth, and arrested him, Mrs Ingram and William Swift.

The charge against them was that they had conspired to persuade Rashleigh to join the Home Guard so that he would have access to a rifle and ammunition, which he could use to help the Germans when they invaded Portsmouth. Corporal Baron also accused them of asking him to obtain blueprints of the latest British tanks, which Mrs Ingram said she had ways of sending to Germany.

Watts, Ingrams and Swift vehemently denied all the charges and pointed out that Mosley's instructions were to do nothing to harm this country and to fight to the death if anybody invaded Britain. Swift also claimed that he had been suspicious of the two new recruits from the start and thought their interest in British Union was 'fishy'.

Anybody reading the transcript of the trial today would gain the distinct impression that the charges brought were amateurish,



VICE ADMIRAL POWELL SEEN TO THE LEFT BEHIND MOSLEY

contrived and unbelievable. The defence lawyer seemed very disinterested in his clients. For example, he never asked Rashleigh the obvious question: why he joined British Union after the first meeting if he thought that treasonable acts were discussed.

In fact, the whole case stank to high Heaven. But during this period of Fifth Column Panic, people would believe anything. Even that Belgian had been overrun by German paratroopers on bicycles dressed as nuns.

Fourteen years penal servitude.

Despite the fact that the only evidence was the word of Rashleigh and Baron, Swift was sentenced to 14 years penal servitude and Mrs Ingram to 10



DISTRICT LEADER FRED WATTS WHO HAD ALL CHARGES DISMISSED WAS LATER ARRESTED UNDER REGULATION 18B AND INTERNED ON THE ISLE OF MAN

years. The charges against Watts were dismissed.

If the case had been brought three months later, it would have been fought under the new Treachery Act of 1940, which would have made Swift liable to the death penalty!

The yellow press, headed by the Daily Express, had a field day over the verdict and ran the headline 'Fascist Spy Ring Smashed in Portsmouth'.

William Swift had two sons who were also members of British

Union. One of these, Able Seaman Harold Swift, died fighting for his country when HMS Barham was sunk. The other, C. R. Swift, also died on active combat when his RAF bomber was shot down on a raid over Germany.

William, branded a traitor, had to endure the grief of the loss of both sons alone in the grey confines of Parkhurst Prison. His wife deserted him, his home was broken up and his constant appeals claiming his innocence were ignored.

HELP FROM AN UNEXPECTED QUARTER

After the War, an organisation was formed under the leadership of George Orwell to fight for justice for prisoners who were considered to have been sentenced too harshly. As a result of an approach by one of Swift's relatives to this organisation, the name of which escapes me at this distance of time, it decided to take up his case.

The Committee of this organisation included Bertram Russell, Michael Foot, Fenner Brockway, Benjamin Britain, Lord Cohen and even British Union's old arch-enemy Harold Laski who had run his own spy inside British Union's National Headquarters. Never the less, to their eternal credit these opponents of fascism started a campaign for Swift's release in 1947. This was led by the organisation's Secretary, a youthful George Woodcock, later to become General Secretary of the Trade Union Congress.

George bombarded the Home Office with letters, which finally helped to obtain the release of Swift after serving seven long years of his sentence. Now 64 and with no home, no wife and two sons dead, William Swift had to begin the process of trying to rebuild his life and find employment late in life whilst branded with the stigma of 'traitor'.

Continued on page 20

'BRAVEHEARTS IN BLACKSHIRTS'

THE BRITISH UNION IN SCOTLAND

By John Anderson

FROM NEW PARTY TO BLACKSHIRTS

Today, when reading books on the history of British Union one could be forgiven for thinking that the Blackshirts had been an exclusively English Movement concentrated predominately in the East End of London. However, from its very beginning the Movement had branches that covered the entire United Kingdom with Scotland providing Sir Oswald Mosley with many of his most loyal and active members.

When formed in October 1932, much of British Union of Fascists support was drawn from the former membership of the New Party. In Scotland the New Party had stood five candidates in the 1931 Parliamentary elections; Dr Robert Forgan, William W Gilmour, Major Randolph Dudgeon, Joseph Mellick and William Stevenson. With the ultimate collapse of the New Party both Robert Forgan and William Gilmour continued their association of the BUF. Robert Forgan being appointed Director of Organisation and William Gilmour as Officer in Charge of the Research Department.



DR ROBERT FORGAN

As Director of Organisation and Second in Command of the Movement, Dr Robert Forgan was responsible for expanding the organisation throughout Britain. With the exception of Defence Force Control and Publications almost every other Department came under his direct control. William W Gilmour as Officer in Charge of Research produced the Propaganda Department's all important 'Speakers Notes' and the headquarters fortnightly 'Speakers Bulletin'. He had also previously been responsible for 'The Fascist News' prior to its incorporation into 'The Blackshirt'. Two further Scots, who had been New Party activists, also became

founder members of British Union. These were Richard A Plathen and James M Little. As National Political Officer, Richard 'Dick' Plathen organised the South Western Administrative Area from its headquarters at Plymouth. From here he launched a major campaign to promote sales of the fascist newspapers: this included him personally leading Blackshirt Action Teams in sales drive on the streets. He would later lead the Blackshirts in East Anglia during what became known as 'The Tithe War'. Here British Union actively supported the local farmers in what was seen by many as a totally unjust tax. Back across the border, Deputy Branch Officer James M Little was a well-known public figure in his home town of Dalbeattie where he was Town clerk and manager of the local bank. He was considered an authority on local government in Scotland and was dubbed 'Scotland's first Fascist'.



JAMES LITTLE

BUF SCOTLAND CAMPAIGN

During October 1933, under the command of Senior Political Officer, Captain Vincent Collier the first BUF Scotland campaign was launched. Supported by Deputy Branch Officer James M Little the two men toured the Scottish counties linking up the many groups and members to form the nucleus of a Scottish organisation. Their results were remarkable: within three months these isolated groups had been organised into the Scottish



MAUD, LADY MOSLEY PRESENTS COLOURS TO OFFICER IN CHARGE JOHN RIDLEY OUTSIDE THE DUMFRIES BRANCH

SCOTLAND'S BUF ADMINISTRATION

Administrative Area with branches in Dalbeattie, Dumfries, Edinburgh, Gatehouse on Fleet, Glasgow and Motherwell and supported by numerous sub-branches and groups throughout the country. For their excellent efforts, Captain Collier was promoted to National Political Officer with responsibility for propaganda throughout the North of England and Scotland – while D.B.O. Little became Deputy Administrative Officer and was appointed Officer in Charge of Scotland.

To underline the remarkable growth in the Scottish organisation and to demonstrate National Headquarters recognition of the Scottish culture and contribution to the Cause, in January 1934 the Leader authorised the wearing of the kilt by the Scottish members. This uniform had of course to comply with the Fascist policy of embracing all clans and classes; therefore, it was only permitted in a neutral grey. In addition, to ensure it did not interfere with the wearing of the Clan Tartan, the regulations stipulated that it could only to be worn with a regulation blackshirt.



WILLIAM W GILMOUR

In December 1933, the Dalbeattie Branch located in the county of Dumfriesshire became the home of the Scottish Area Headquarters. With Deputy Branch Officer James M Little's appointment to Deputy Administrative Officer for Scotland, his previous post of Branch Organiser now passed to D.B.O. Gibson who in turn became Dalbeattie's Officer in Charge. D.A.O. Little and his assistant, Branch Officer, Hatton E Duff, of the Edinburgh Branch visited the many newly formed branches and groups to educate the members on Blackshirt policy and organisation. With the continued support of Captain Collier who regularly addressed meetings; membership throughout the area began to rise dramatically.

'RED' TERROR BEGINS

The first British Union meeting in Scotland to be addressed by Sir Oswald Mosley was at the Drill Hall, Dumfries on 6th April 1934. This gave the Scots their first opportunity to hear the Leader put the case for Fascism in Scotland. But it also gave the local Communists their chance to launch a major attack on the Movement.

Trouble began a few hours before the meeting was due to start when around twenty fuses for the lighting system were smashed. However, an alert Blackshirt steward discovered the damage and the lighting was quickly restored. When the meeting commenced, the hall was packed with an audience of almost four thousand and as Sir Oswald

mounted the platform a rousing cheer went up. This was too much for a handful of Reds and as the Leader commenced his speech a series of interruptions followed. After the customary three warnings, and the continual refusal of the Communists to retake their seats, the Leader instructed the stewards to remove them from the Hall. During the melee, which followed, one of the Reds produced a razor and slashed a steward across the face. Luckily, a first aid station had been prepared and the Blackshirt was able to receive immediate attention. Order was restored in the Hall and Mosley went on with the speech the audience had come to hear.

This outbreak of violence did not damage the Movement as the Communists had hoped. Instead it provided the local Blackshirts with great publicity in their fight to establish freedom of speech. A week later Deputy Branch Officer John H Hone opened the Dumfries Branch headquarters at 17 Queen Street, and by June over 200 active and non-active members had been enrolled. Through the excellent work of his Assistant Propaganda Officers; A Hyslop and J McLean, sub-branches were formed at Lockerbie, with Sub Branch Officer G Woolford commanding and Thornhill where the Sub Branch Officer was John D Ridley. In addition groups were also raised at Annan, Castle Douglas and Moffatt.



**RICHARD 'DICK' PLATHÉN
'AULD REEKIE' AND THE
USHER HALL MEETING**

Following the Leader's resounding success at Dumfries plans for an even larger meeting, this time for the capital Edinburgh, were quickly drawn up. To assist the Scottish Area Staff, Dick Plathén was transferred to Edinburgh from NHQ in May and appointed Area Organising Officer for Scotland. Here he immediately secured the

Usher Hall, the largest indoor meeting place in the entire city, for the Leader's next rally. The meeting, arranged for 1st June, was assured an enthusiastic audience for in Edinburgh three branches had been formed over the previous six months.

Opened in December 1933, Edinburgh No 1 Branch operated from offices at North Bridge under the command of Branch Organiser, Hatton E Duff. However, following his promotion to the Scottish Area Staff, by May the Branch was under the temporary command of Assistant Propaganda Officer J A Pettie. The branch contained excellent facilities with separate offices for the senior staff, a lecture room for the weekly 'Speakers' classes, a canteen under the control of Fascist Tait and a drill hall for the training of the Defence Force. The Women's Section and Edinburgh No 1 Branch shared this accommodation until March 1934, when, after a kind donation by one of the lady members, a separate branch for the women was opened at 8 Hope Street, with Women's Officer Miss Marie Inglis in command. Finally, the third Edinburgh branch, formed in January 1934, was located at the local University and here the Officer in Charge was Sub Branch Officer Geddes.



**8 HOPE STREET
(CONTEMPORARY PICTURE)**

In late May, information was received that the Communist Party had created 'storm sections' which would be used to smash all future Blackshirt rallies. It was decided to reinforce the local Blackshirt stewards with detachments sent from the North East, North West and London Defence Forces. Thus at 8pm on Friday, 1st June the Usher Hall not only had an audience of thousands containing; religious Ministers, prominent lawyers, city councillors, farmers, clerks and shop assistants – but a combined formation of some 300 stewards



**LONDON DEFENCE FORCE EN-ROUTE TO EDINBURGH
FOR THE LEADERS USHER HALL MEETING ON 1st JUNE
1934**

in attendance.

Sir Oswald entered the packed Hall amid the rousing applause of his supporters and after mounting the platform the Blackshirts lining the isles gave the full arm salute. From the moment the Leader began his speech until he answered the final question not the slightest disturbance occurred. Sir Oswald Mosley and British Union had been given a tremendous reception by the people of Edinburgh that matched anything south of the border – and many important new recruits were won. However, outside the Hall the 'Red Storm' was gathering as Communists from the Cannongate and Tollcross districts began to mass. Unusually the local authorities had banned the Blackshirts from parading and marching back to their headquarters after the meeting. They had also instructed that all Blackshirts should disperse in small groups and leave via their hired coaches.

As each section left the hall the Communists, sensing their opportunity, surged forward to the police lines and launched a hail of bricks, bottles and stones. The Blackshirts, pushed on by the police towards their coaches, began to lose cohesion and isolated members were soon mobbed by the Reds. As punches and kicks rained down on their fallen comrades, a number of Blackshirts bravely fought their way back and dragged the now unconscious men to what they thought would be the safety of the waiting coaches. However, the Communists now turned their attention to the parked vehicles, and as they began to fill with bleeding, bruised and unconscious Blackshirts, another hail of missiles was launched. As the windows of coach after coach was smashed, it was there that some of the worst injuries were received, mainly by the Manchester Section, as glass

began showering in on the trapped men. Only once the coaches had pulled out and were rushing the injured to the Edinburgh Royal Infirmary could the scale of the casualties be assessed. Several Blackshirts lay unconscious with a further dozen requiring treatment for serious cuts. One member, Joseph Wood from Manchester, would remain in hospital for several weeks as surgeons battled to remove glass from both his eyes. Unfortunately, their work was only partially successful as the young Blackshirt was left blind in one eye.

The violence shown against the Movement once again produced a surge of new recruits and before the month was out a forth Edinburgh branch had formed at 9 Grove Street, in the west of the city. The branch was officially opened by Dr Forgan and on his arrival he was met at the entrance by a kilted piper and then greeted by the Branch Officer W A Hope-Wynne. The premises, which consisted of two roomy shops, were decorated in black and gold and clearly demonstrated the loyal sentiments of the Movement by the flying of the Union Jack and the Scottish Royal Ensign. Three further Blackshirt groups were also formed at this time on the outskirts of Edinburgh in Leith, Portobello and Mussleburgh.

REORGANISATION

With the rapid growth of the Movement across Scotland during the summer of 1934, the time was right to reorganise the Scottish Command. With Dick Plathén as Area Organiser and James Little as the Administrative Officer for Scotland the area was now divided into Northern and Southern Sub-Areas.

The Northern Area, under the command of D.A.O. Duff, was based in Edinburgh while the Southern Area, organised by

D.A.O. Hone, was administered from Dumfries. The women's organisation was also restructured along similar lines with Miss Marie Inglis promoted to Women's Area Officer (Northern) and Mrs Mitford Hone, the Women's Officer for Dumfries, appointed as Women's Area Officer (Southern).



JOHN H HONE

Scottish Propaganda now came under the organisational talents of MR C Bryham Oliver who was appointed Deputy Propaganda Officer. D.P.O. Oliver had previously been the organiser of the Junior Conservative Branches in Scotland and had been on the personal staff of the Scottish Conservative Chief Whip. To assist him, D.P.O. Oliver had a number of excellent Assistant Propaganda Officers which included; A Aspinall and W M Bissett in Edinburgh; A Hyslop and J McLean for Dumfries; and A Baxter in Glasgow.

At the end of June Lady Mosley, Director of the Women's Organisation, while on her official tour of Scotland, visited the Edinburgh and Dumfries branches. While in Edinburgh she addressed a large meeting of the women members at their headquarters and congratulated them on their magnificent work. Later she visited the Royal Infirmary where Joseph Wood, the Manchester Blackshirt, who was partially blinded during the violence at the Usher Hall, was still being cared for. At Dumfries, Lady Mosley presented the

branch its colours, a Union Jack and a black flag with the British Fascist emblem in gold, to Deputy Branch Officer John D Ridley who had become Officer in Charge following the promotion of John Hone.

GLASGOW

The West of Scotland also produced several very active branches the most significant being the Glasgow Branch located in a traditionally strong Socialist area.

In Glasgow, the British Union headquarters in Bath Street, was subjected to an almost continuous assault from the local Communists. Under the command of Deputy Branch Officer H McAdam Tiffin, the Glasgow Branch was fortunate to have some very dedicated and able members. Assistant Propaganda Officer Angus Baxter could normally attract audiences of around seven hundred for his meeting - even in the most inhospitable areas. At their regular weekly pitches in Sauchiehall Street and West Campbell Street the Blackshirt speaker would often receive verbal and physical assaults ending on occasions with running battles thorough the surrounding streets.



BLACKSHIRT MEMBERS ON A PROPAGANDA TOUR OF SCOTLAND

During the summer a concerted effort was made by the Reds to



A CONTEMPLATIVE MOSLEY AT A 1934 MEETING

close all Blackshirt meeting and sales drives throughout Glasgow. In August, at meetings addressed by A.P.O. Baxter, in the Queen's Park district, D.B.O. Tiffin and Unit Leader Lockyer were both punched in the face while the following week Blackshirt Salmond, of the Propaganda Department, received kicks to his back. However, the most serious incident occurred when during a sales drive in West Campbell Street, Communists armed with lead-piping and knuckle dusters attacked a small party of Scottish Blackshirts. Baxter, Gilmour, Healy, Judd, Smith, Toby and Weir were viciously assaulted with A.P.O. Baxter and Judd



A BLACKSHIRT SUMMER CAMP IN GALLOWAY, SCOTLAND

The culmination of all their hard work resulted in the first indoor meeting for the Glasgow Blackshirts in the St Andrews Hall. Inside, the speakers, D.B.O. Tiffin and Bryham Oliver, now Senior Propaganda Officer for Scotland, were given a rousing reception with only one disturbance recorded. This was when a demonstrator attempted to interrupt Mr Tiffin's speech but he was quickly escorted out by the well-drilled stewards. Outside the hall was a different matter. Before the meeting, the police were forced to baton charge the Red mob who had gathered in an attempt to prevent the audience from entering the building. Following the meeting the Branch Headquarters received a constant stream of enquiries from Glaswegians seeking further information on the Movement and its policies for Scotland.

DECEMBER 1934

The end of the year brought little rest for the Scottish Blackshirts with propaganda and sales drives continuing throughout the winter months. However, there was still time for both Edinburgh and Glasgow branches to receive their branch colours from A.O. Little and D.A.O. Duff respectively. While at Dalbeattie the local branch held a 'Ladies Night' which resulted in the announcement of the recruitment of their first women members. As 1934 came to a close, Mosley's Tartan Army was well and truly on the march. (to be continued)

requiring hospital treatment. The remainder, all badly bruised, were forced to return to their headquarters.

Undaunted, sales of the 'Blackshirt' newspaper dramatically increased under the control of Sales Officer Toby, who now arranged special sales drives throughout Glasgow and the surrounding towns of Kilmarnock, Greenock and Helensburgh. Sales were so successful that one of his men, Blackshirt E Healy, was recognised for his excellent selling skills by the award of a signed copy of the Leader's book 'The Greater Britain' for his sales of the 'Blackshirt' newspaper which topped 67 copies in one week.



DUMFRIESS BLACKSHIRTS FORMED INTO A LIFE SAVING SQUAD

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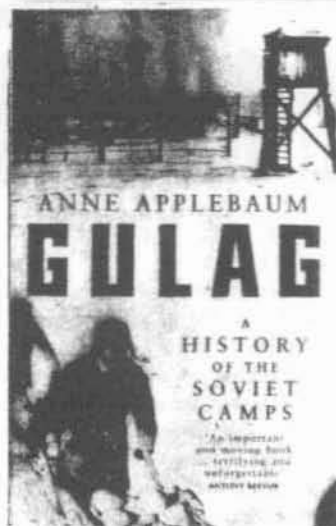
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BOOK REVIEWS



Gulag: a history of the Soviet camps

By Anne Applebaum
Allan Lane £ 25.00
ISBN: 0713 993227

Facts. Facts. Facts.

2,561,351 prisoners in 1950. A million more than in 1945. In 1929 Stalin imposed forced labour to speed industrialisation and exploit natural resources. The full horror of the story was underway.

The generic word Gulag, an acronym of Glavnoe upravlenie lagerei meaning Main Camp

Administration covered slave labour camps in all its forms. By 1939 Gulags were established in every one of the Soviet Union's twelve time zones. Grandiose schemes such as the White Sea Canal largely hewn from solid granite needed labour and plenty of it. The most trivial offence could lead to cattle truck transportation, to some far away, often Siberian prison camp conveniently located near to the fields of exploitation. As so often in Soviet history, the greatest enthusiasts of the regime eager to do Stalin's bidding, were those caught up in the party machine, accused of sabotage and traitorous acts; Yagoda, Eichmans, Pliner, Kogan and Berzin all earned the gratitude of a single bullet in the back of the head.

Why has this book taken such a long time coming? A parochial reason must be the latter day release of inner sanctum

documents. But Khrushchev blew the lid off the story in his 'secret', deliberately leaked to the west, speech to the Politburo in 1956. Nearly fifty years has elapsed. Major writers such as Alexander Solzhenitsyn, an ex-prisoner, did emerge under the patronage of Nikita to expose the story but ended up an exile. A reluctance of western academia to rock the boat in their cosy left of centre world? (some proof of this beyond anecdotal evidence does exist). While new angles, however tenuous are published every week on the German experience often followed by an equally tedious television documentary. Little by comparison has been exposed on the crimes of the USSR. The story of Perm and its dead eyed inmates plus the odd dramatised tale, immediately come to mind. And that's about it. The term 'concentration camps' was dropped in 1930 in favour of



"WORK IN THE USSR IS A MATTER OF HONOUR AND GLORY". SIGN OVER A GULAG ENTRANCE

"IF MULTICULTURALISM IS THE ANSWER, WHAT IS THE QUESTION?"

In one brief killer sentence, Brian Barry, sums up the consuming and seemingly never ending 'problem' of the age.



CULTURE AND EQUALITY:
an egalitarian critique of
multiculturalism
By Brian Barry
Polity Press
ISBN: 0-7456-2227-5 Hb.
ISBN: 0-7456-2228-3 Pb.
£16.99 (Pb.)

First things first. This book cannot be dismissed as just another rant from the Right. Brian Barry is the respected author, Arnold A. Saltzman

Professor, Department of Political Science and Department of Philosophy, Columbia University and Emeritus Professor of Political Science at the London School of Economics. In an exhaustive read of well over three hundred pages, punches are refreshingly never pulled.

THE AWAKENING

Barry originally thought Multiculturalism would "sink under the weight of its intellectual weakness" but its onward march with accompanying legislation and a multi-million pound Quangocracy, matched by a lack of critical treatment within political philosophy, has allowed Barry the opportunity to attack the subject with relish. Iris Young's discovering the ideal state to be composed of a plurality of cultural groups is forensically dissected. Kymlicka and Tully are given similar treatment. Backed up with an onslaught of hard facts he has pursued "Pop academics and their journalistic hangers-on in all areas where the liberal agenda is

promoted". As Barry argues, "multiculturalist politics are not in general well designed to advance liberty and equality and the implementation of such policies tends to make a retreat from both".

RESTRICTIVE PRACTICES

The book also explores, in detail, the American experience, which in so many ways is often a precursor for what will shortly be visited upon us. The well documented stories of motor-biking Sikhs, road safety vs. religious tolerance, is given a good airing together with the government's reaction to a campaign on the hardy annual Kosher and now of growing import Halal meat. In 1990, the European Union was in the forefront of proposing that ALL animal killing should be preceded by humane stunning. Compassion in World Farming, the R.S.P.C.A., the Humane Slaughter Association even the Farm Animal Welfare Council (a government body) had for some years held with a prohibition of animals being bled to death. An additional fact was Sweden; Norway and Switzerland had rabbinical law in place allowing stunning before traditional slaughter. The government was literally on the rack. Barry says



THE MURDERER-IN-CHIEF VISITS A SLAVE CAMP SITE

corrective-labour camps.

Not an easy 610 pages to read but it does give a voice to those countless lost millions who suffered and perished in the name of the people who walked into hell under the camp entrance slogan "Work in the USSR is a matter of honour and glory". This is a work of enormous scholarship, long overdue and hopefully the precursor of further books, exposing the criminal conspiracy known as the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. We owe a debt of gratitude to Anne Applebaum and her definitive work. We also eagerly await the prime time television series???

that official response was remarkable. It consulted with the vocal lobbies fighting to maintain the status quo but failed to consult the organisations trying to bring about change or the general public, who in a poll were over three quarters against the continuing barbarity. Some 'democratic' window dressing in the House of Lords together with the odd official committee resulted in the predictable response. They "rejected the Councils assessment of the welfare implications of religious slaughter" (1).

As Ian Shapiro, author of Democratic Justice says "Culture and Equality is without doubt the critique that defenders of multiculturalism will have to answer".

For anyone who cares for the future of this once great and could be again, land of ours, this is an intelligent and well informed book that should be required reading.

A Religious Rerun

Once again (2003) the Farm Animal Welfare Council has made headlines bringing up the question of humane slaughter. Predictably, the reaction has been equally fierce. This is a story that has a while to run.

STRIKING NOVEL NOTES & EXPOSING LITERARY LIES

MOSLEY IN FICTION

By John Tanner

Many supposed "facts" about Oswald and Diana Mosley are actually fiction. Even supposedly reliable reference works and personal memoirs get things wrong. Dates and descriptions are often incorrect.

Perhaps less well-known are references in novels and films. However, fiction is sometimes written even about this proper fiction. Comments are passed on like Chinese Whispers until they bear little relationship to the initial texts.

A reviewer called Brooke Allen, for example, wants Mosley "best known to future generations as the original for P.G. Wodehouse's immortal character Sir Roderick Spode" and she adds that he was "lampooned", "even more ruthlessly" by Nancy Mitford in a novel near to "kitchen-sink realism". Do people who parrot such piffle know what they are talking about?

Nancy Mitford published **Wigs on the Green** in 1935. Its title is an Irish expression for a fight. One actually takes place during a Chalford village pageant, because of the lyrical and boisterous commitment to the "Union Jackshirts" of young heiress Eugenia Malmains (Based loosely on her sister Unity). Known solely as "Captain Jack", their leader makes no personal appearance whatever, until finally she visits his London HQ where he removes his own badge and pins it silently upon her chest. The "great man" is nowhere lampooned - unless we count this single sentence in over 250 pages.

Nancy told her other sister Diana: "A book of this kind *can't* do your movement any harm. Honestly, if I thought it could set the Leader back by so much as half an hour I would have scrapped it, or indeed never written it in the first place ... it is far more in favour of Fascism than otherwise". She declined to reprint any of it later on. Her attitude towards her brother-in-law swung almost full circle during her lifetime, towards the close of which Lady Mosley comforted her attentively.

P.G. Wodehouse first mentions "Roderick Spode" in **Code of the Woosters** (1937). Among the typical cast in his closed world of overgrown prep-schoolboys,

chinless chumps and silly asses with names like Gussie Fink-Nottle and Stinker Pinker. This book is no more a bracing, scorching "anti-fascist classic" than Richmal Crompton's much funnier **William - the Dictator**. Possibly Wodehouse had some anti-Mussolini cartoon in mind when depicting Spode as a cross between a "fat slob" and a giant gorilla. But this character is quite different from the athletic, articulate and aquiline fascist leader in the UK. Nor can the little band of half-wits called "Saviours of Britain" who are said to go round in black "footer bags" saluting in German satirise the huge pre-established British Union, for in chapter 3 Gussie tells Bertie that by the time Spode had formed his own association no shirts were left.

Such facts never deterred the efforts, at the BBC and elsewhere, to "identify" this clumsy buffoon with Sir Oswald Mosley - by the transparent trick of turning the author's original lingerie-store manager "Mr" Spode into a "Sir" Roderick of their own dishonest invention.

The embarrassment of Wodehouse fans over his Nazi-sponsored wartime broadcasts is no excuse. He was a political innocent and, since political uniforms had been outlawed in Britain before this particular book came out, he was also a political ignoramus.

More interesting is Aldous Huxley's **Point Counter Point** (1928) whose strongest characters were composed and combined partly from celebrities whom he knew. A major character "Everard Webley", equestrian leader of the greenshirted Brotherhood of British Freeman, is usually regarded as a portrait of the subsequent founder of British Union. Mosley's eldest son Nicholas - a well-established "teller of tales" himself - points out that "the book does show an amazing prescience of the way in which politics, if not precisely my father, were going. Both Everard Webley and later my father held enormous political rallies in Hyde Park; they certainly had a few traits in common. I still find Everard Webley's gruesome murder unnerving". Huxley also blended in personal



aspects of the Social Creditor John Hargrave, though he did not fix the Robin Hood livery for his relatively few followers until 1931. Tall, handsome and dynamic, Webley eloquently demands government by intelligent statesmen rather than a party system, but his ideas are vaguer than those of real-life Mosley. His forename recalls the rebellious "superman" Ernest Everhard, whose exposition of under-consumption and the export-racket in Jack London's famous **Iron Heel** more precisely anticipated the lucid public arguments for "revolution by reason" of the already provocative Labour MP

The contemporary poet-dramatist T.S. Eliot is sometimes said to have targeted Mosley specifically in certain 1930s literary texts despite the supposedly subtle "pro-fascist" inclination of his journal **The Criterion**. There is no proof of direct individual attack in his plays. To be sure, Eliot gradually turned away from all secular mass-movements of class or nation towards an overriding religious conception of a City of God, although his deserted wife Vivienne actually joined British Union, an act some regarded as conclusive proof of insanity but which reflected her "confidence that it would elevate English standards". She once confronted him publicly in uniform.

The leading English novelist-prophet, H.G. Wells, produced **The Autocracy of Mr Parham** two years after Huxley's superior work. In this dreamlike satire, the would-be dictator "Lord

Paramountain", easily invades the Westminster talking-shop with an armed guard and dissolves its recently elected "association of vague idealists and socialist adventurers". At this moment Mosley stands nearby to support the unsteady Prime Minister "Ramsy McDougal" - not to overturn but in this particular emergency to defend parliamentary democracy. "Behind him Sir Osbert Moses had seemed to be pleading in vain with a sheepish crowd of government supporters for some collective act of protest."

Wells once argued for a "liberal fascism" whereby a dedicated elite would gradually bring about a technological utopia; and he shared with Huxley an interest in eugenics, a project now seen as so "politically incorrect" that it is prohibited by the European Charter of Fundamental Rights. Mosley's synthesis of traditional values with scientific modernisation to counter the drift towards social and biological decadence might have solved various problems expressed in their different writings about the fearful future.

Wells' major prediction of the shape of world events formed the basis of Alexander Korda's extraordinary film **Things to Come** (1936) which **Fascist Quarterly** reviewed somewhat acidly: "Civilisation is overwhelmed by 'the last fight', and out of its ruins a Brave New World is constructed by a race of supermen [who] array themselves in black shirts" and the regenerated society is "governed by a dictator called Oswald".

Raymond Massey's rhythmic oratory as "Oswald Cabal" curiously resembles that of Oswald Mosley, although cinema idols Ronald Colman and Errol Flynn came closer in facial good-looks.

Widespread western fear after 1918 that the world was heading towards a great crisis and another war could prove the ultimate catastrophe "provided material for the numerous accounts of the troubles-to-come" in fiction; among the more original of these was **Public Faces** by Harold Nicolson ... published in the Faustian year of 1932". A distinguished colleague of Mosley, he had edited the **New Party's Action**.

His book was a fantasy about a diplomatic crisis starting in the Persian Gulf and involving an atomic explosion. Nazi **Lebensraum** objectives not yet emerging as an international issue. The author conceives a

Cabinet a few years hence with Churchill and Mosley managing to work together, until Winston resigns when the House of Commons fails to express gratitude for the economic recovery induced by their currency and industrial reforms. However, *Mosley becomes Prime Minister by 1942*. A major achievement of his new administration is the closure of a poisonous media empire.



These projected dates can be compared with Kingsley Martin's expectation in 1934 of two more old-party regimes – and “then Fascism” by 1941⁸. Penguins republished Nicolson's novel towards the end of the real war, which had prevented that outcome in this country, blandly noting that “the careers of some still living characters have not turned out entirely as prophesied”.

Too much imaginative writing on this subject has been influenced by communist ideology which falsely regarded Mosley as a servant of “finance capital” instead of its potential master. This fundamental mistake was neatly refuted by his friend and historical novelist Hugh Ross Williamson in his non-fiction *Who is for Liberty?* (1939) and recently by scholars like A. James Gregor in *Interpretations of Fascism* (1997).

With a few notable exceptions, other references to Mosley's movement in print or screen fiction have been either brief mentions, almost as momentary as the flash-and-circle noticed on an East End wall in Virginia Woolf's *The Waves* (1937), or background allusion such as the celebration of communist attacks on marches and meetings in Arnold Wesker's *Chicken Soup with Barley* (1958).

In 1946 Frederic Mullally, a left-wing novelist eventually fated to produce pornography, wrote *Fascism inside England*, demanding legislation to prevent its “recrudescence”, especially since an “important minority”

right across society shared Mosley's opinions on alien immigration, Soviet Russia, etc. This lurid propaganda booklet opens with an 8-page short story about a youngster attracted by the “purposive austerity” of the black shirt, which ostensibly conveyed “selfless dedication” to a patriotic cause, but, influenced by his father's Christian “anti-semitism” and contempt for “the workers”. He is drawn into a comradeship of increasing violence.

A similar “class explanation” of recruitment appears even in one of the “English saga” narratives by R.F. Delderfield, *The Dreaming Suburb* (1958). A young city executive joins the blackshirts in order to bring the restless unemployed into line! Envious of his “posh” private lifestyle, one of his employees joins too – after spending three weeks' wages (!) on his uniform. A communist mob viciously attacks them at a street meeting and after leaving hospital this humble clerk from “the Avenue”, much to his mummy's relief, decides never again to expose himself to such terrible risks and indignities, not even “for the British Empire”, with Sir Oswald Mosley at its head⁹.

Nagasaki-born Kazuo Ishiguro won the 1989 Booker Prize for his bestseller *The Remains of the Day* – subsequently filmed. Here the efforts to prevent war by “Lord Darlington”, an admirer of German and Italian “action” to help the poor, are recalled by his elderly ex-butler, who defends the loyal service in the households of educated aristocrats whom he considers custodians of civilisation. He remembers one lady who took Darlington personally to visit the homes of many families “suffering the desperate plight of those years”. She was a blackshirt too, but the “contact his lordship had with Sir Oswald” occurred only briefly.

Disagreements in high society over pre-war “appeasement” are likewise reflected in Penny Vincenzi's *Something Dangerous* (2001). Lady Celia Lytton gets in with “Bunny” Arden, an enthusiastic follower and “close friend of Oswald Mosley himself”. Brisk dialogue contains her defiant defence of the charismatic leader, his radical ideology and his 40,000 followers, against her publisher husband, worried by banners, spotlights and jackboots, never mind her interest in the new Germany (“I have even heard that Diana Guinness has been out there”). However, Celia “repents” when war comes and “Tom” is

put in Brixton. “It was this article in *Action*, that did it.” She says, “he offered to lead people into peace by co-operation. Well, prison is where he should be. It's appalling.” (So is the book). Little notice is required here of the grotesque material from Savoy Books which from 1986 through 2001 has mixed together in a horrifying parallel universe Lord Haw-Haw, Churchill, Jessie Matthews, Unity Mitford, T.S. Eliot, Ezra Pound, Tommy Moran, P.J. Proby, Lord Boothby and the “maligned” and “underestimated” Mosley, who, “would have fought for Albion” given the chance. Some might classify all this pretentious stuff as “magic realism” whereas others define it as ghoulish obscenity.



Various “thrillers” have adopted the theme of a few rich or powerful, men conspiring with fanatics or gangsters either to protect or to overthrow what the authors conceive as the democratic establishment, and sometimes racial issues are brought in. An early example was *The Smiler with the Knife* about the sinister “English Banner” written in 1939 by “Nicholas Blake” (C. Day-Lewis) around the time he left the Communist Party for the Ministry of Information. A significant number of these potboilers appeared during the period 1960-1985, but Mosley's name was rarely dragged in explicitly even after his libel-free death. A trivial exception is Nigel Fountain's “pinko” *Days Like These* (1985) about so-called “fascist terror today” featuring someone who “always wanted to read the collected works of Mosley”.

Ken Royce's *The Mosley Receipt* (1985) is about the illegal diversion of £30,000 from a wealthy backer in 1934 by faking Sir Oswald's thank-you signature. The author may not have realised that Mosley's scarcely decipherable handwriting in other respects would have taxed even the most skilled forger, but he does write of “the man who might well have been Prime Minister of Great Britain had he acted a little differently ... a brilliant maverick

... Everyone knew of him and his Blackshirts ... Mosley had had a good deal of backing in high places; even youth recruitment had been wide-spread.”

“Mosleyism” in cinema fiction are rare and mostly fleeting; for instance, the street meeting in Noel Coward/David Lean's *This Happy Breed* (1944). One of the “misfits” recruited for the *League of Gentlemen* (1960) suffers the twin handicap of once being a fascist “back-room boy” and currently being a “male masseur”, though these professions are not explicitly connected! We need hardly discuss Steven Berkoff's “ranting racist” in the “poperetta” movie-version of the novel *Absolute Beginners* by Colin MacInnes (1959) whose chapter praising black immigration in North Kensington does not mention its Union Movement candidate.

In 1964 the promising and inventive young dramatist Dennis Potter wrote *Vote, Vote Vote for Nigel Barton* reflecting as a former candidate his utter revulsion against the Labour Party and the political system in general. Despite BBC demands for toning down, it went out the following year retaining his scripted newsreel shots of an equally disenchanted Mosley, the exact moral of this ambivalent fable being left to viewers. Potter, now sadly deceased, was an English patriot under his psoriatic skin⁹.

The Gran and Marks biopic *Mosley* appeared on Channel 4 in 1998 as explosive “faction”. Within its ratings-required “sex and violence” framework, enough historical “revisionism” was nevertheless introduced to annoy both *Searchlight* and *The Observer's* Nick Cohen, obviously disconcerted that the evil bogey-man hitherto largely airbrushed from the national memory had returned on prime-time television as a Shakespearean hero.

In October 2002, ITV1 started a detective series *Foyle's War* by Anthony Horowitz. In one episode Charles Dance plays an “impressive, Mosley-like figure”¹⁰ apparently waiting for the German invasion. A compensating element is some explicit indication of the actual position of the arrested peace-campaigner himself, off-stage so to speak, and his supporters including Aircraftsmen 549741 Day and 546065 Brocking shot down the day after war was declared.

The final word must surely be granted to the man who knew Mosley better than any other

writer outside the family. Henry Williamson is described as one of the two greatest novelists in the second quarter of the 20th Century after D.H. Lawrence and James Joyce¹¹ and *Chronicle of Ancient Sunlight* forms his greatest single literary achievement.



Williamson once asked when the truth would be told about Mosley, born to privilege with a golden spoon, but who chucked it all up to "go into the streets to plead for ordinary people", and about "the Phoenix impulse of Europe"?¹² Here he had in mind D.H. Lawrence and the possibility of resurrection from the flames and shadows of two great wars. He provided the answer himself with the concluding four books of his sequenced chronicle, especially *The Phoenix Generation* (1965).

Novelists are liable to turn historical facts into imaginative myths, as we know from Robert Graves who absurdly asserted in *The Long Weekend* that "Mosley produced no plan for solving Britain's problems" or Peter Ackroyd, whose recent *London* "biography" suggests that the entire city itself rebuked and expelled the fascists at Cable Street. But the romanticism that infuses the details of Williamson's masterwork expresses the spirit of "a new, clean, healthy mentally fearless Britain"¹³. His narrative relocates some events and quotations, and disguises some real people, but only to bring out the authentic truth, the policies Mosley actually presented and the public response he actually evoked.

Sir Oswald (Tom) Mosley Bt. is "renamed" after Sir Henry (Tim) Birkin Bt. Both were born in 1896 and saw Royal Flying Corps service. Birkin was a popular hard-driving sports-car champion with a similar aristocratic bearing and military moustache. After unexpected death in 1933, he was buried in a Norfolk churchyard not far from Williamson's later home. He too combined an enthusiasm for technical progress with an attachment to coast and countryside. "Birkin" was also a

self-referring surname used in *Women in Love* by D.H. Lawrence, several of whose sentiments before he too died young in 1930 anticipated those of fascist intellectuals in Europe¹⁴.

The chosen forename, while also recalling London's outlaw-politician "Everhard" and Huxley's "Everard", is appropriately that of Hereward the Wake, England's "last and lost hero" of history and legend, the forgotten symbolic champion of defiant resistance to invasion and domination by alien forces¹⁵.

The Phoenix Generation is packed with data about the ideas, speeches, and other activities of Mosley-Birkin. In contrast to "anti-fascist" dystopias of the 1930s, such as Storm Jameson's *In the Second Year*, this book conjures up the effect of his words on vast audiences:

They saw fine housing estates and no more building speculation, they saw their children glowing with health and vitality ... They saw ships going to the colonies with motorcars, tractors, machinery, and other fine English things, passing ships bringing grain and fruits and raw materials from the finest Empire on earth. Those ships passed other ships, flying other flags, and saluted them in friendship ... The only rivalry would be that of the works of peace, for art would truly serve the peoples of the earth, each with its authentic national inspiration, and therefore of a natural truth and beauty. All this was possible ...

The bulk of Mosley's support came from ordinary working folk. Many were motivated by social idealism and civic morality of the highest kind; and the violence, hardship and undeserved vilification long endured in consequence provides further proof of that fact.

Their leader also attracted novelists, unfortunately not George Orwell who regarded him as a Gilbert and Sullivan "dragoon", nor E.M. Forster, who loftily complained that he resembled the wicked baronet of Edwardian melodrama who magnetised dull little typists and bored bank clerks.

Storm over Europe author Douglas Jerrold, however, conceded that Mosley was one of the few Englishmen even trying to tell the truth and to provide the people, when adversity arrived, with hope for survival¹⁶. Popular novelist Beverly Nichols described him in 1938 as "a figure of tremendous importance ... who has in him the qualities of that hero for whom this country has waited so long"¹⁷. The

foremost Irish playwright Bernard Shaw, whose proposed talk in 1940 asserting that, whereas the "parliamentary favourites" were spouting bunkum, "nine-tenths of what Oswald Mosley said was true" was of course banned by the BBC¹⁸.

Has anyone yet attempted a proper "alternative history" novel about Mosley? Norman Longmate, Robert Skidelsky, and even Andrew Roberts¹⁹ and other researchers have rightly rejected as unsound any scenario in which he subordinates himself to a foreign occupation. But what if instead of the "long slow crumbling down the years" A massive slump had suddenly struck Britain well before and Russo-German pact had struck Poland

A truly novel project. Any takers?

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Notes:

¹ *New Criterion*, 18th April 2000

² Charlotte Mosley (ed) *The Letters of Nancy Mitford* (1993) p.69.

³ Citing Nick Cohen, Stephen Fry, Francis Wheen, John Simpson, R.A. Hall &c.

⁴ M.A. Doherty, *Nazi Wireless Propaganda* (2000) p.15

⁵ Introduction to Dalkey Archive reprint (1999) p.vii

⁶ F.B. Pinion, *A.T.S. Eliot Companion* (1989) p.45

⁷ L.F. Clarke, *The Pattern of Expectation* (1979) p.248

⁸ C.H. Rolph (ed) *Kingsley* (1973) p.206

⁹ Cf. W. Stephen Gilbert, *Fight and Kick and Bite* (1995) p.196: "The love of English literature ... informs several plays ... In *Traitor* Potter crucially distinguishes [from a communist attraction an] embrace of Camelot, couched in terms that might just as well be a yearning for the return of Oswald Mosley."

¹⁰ *The Guardian*, 6th November 2002

¹¹ George D. Painter, *Aylesford Review*, Spring 1959

¹² *Action* 15th July 1961

¹³ *The Story of a Norfolk Farm* (1941) p.187

¹⁴ Frank Kermode, *Lawrence* (1973)

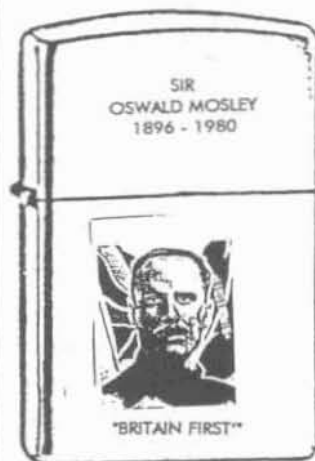
¹⁵ Victor Head, *Hereward* (1995)

¹⁶ *Georgian Adventure* (1937) pp.324-325

¹⁷ *News of England*, pp.294-295

¹⁸ Allan Chappelow, Shaw - *'The Chucker Out'* (1969) p.199

¹⁹ Niall Ferguson (ed) *Virtual History* (1998) ch.6



MOSLEY CENTERNARY LIGHTERS

Four specially designed lighters were commissioned to mark the centenary of Sir Oswald Mosley's birth.

Sir Oswald Mosley 1896-1980

Grasp the Stars 1932-1992

Action 1931 Britain First

The Spirit Lives 1932-1992

Made by the world renowned 'Zippo' company, a few limited editions with enamelled design on a brush chrome finish are available.

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MOSLEY MEMORABILIA

Anything of interest considered.

Please write full description and price required to:

B.M. Talon,
27 Old Gloucester Street,
London, WC1N 3XX.

The communist inspired demonstrations against the release of the Mosleys, after years in prison without charge or trial, made a lot of noise and headlines but like most empty vessels carried nothing of real substance.

A FRIEND IN NEED

By Gregory Maitland

During their recuperation at the Shaven Crown in Oxfordshire (see Comrade 55), a letter arrived in early December 1943 from Ireland. Mr J.D. O'Connell, a solicitor in Tralee, County Kerry offered to accommodate the Mosleys. Its contents must have lifted the spirits of the family.

J. D. O'CONNELL,
COUNTY SOLICITOR,
TELEPHONE: TRALEE NO. 28.

1. Ashe Street,
Tralee,
2nd Dec. 1943

Sir Oswald Mosley Bt
8, Smith Sq. London S.W.

Dear Sir Oswald,

I had the pleasure of meeting you in 1921 in connection with the "Peace with Ireland" Council of which you were an active member. It seems a long time ago but I remember with gratitude the noble work then done by your colleagues and your good self during the reign of terror of the "Black and Tans" in this country. The people of County Kerry who were the most to suffer appreciate it too and I can assure you that your good name will be remembered here long after those who now try to belittle you will be clean forgotten.

I had then a Private Secretary and Parliamentary Secretary as well. The latter had some idea that matters were not as represented but the difficulty was surmounted. I trust both Lady Mosley and yourself are on the mend. I too know what internment means and all our womenfolk know it. I shall be glad to hear from you in due course and once again I extend an earnest invitation to you both to come amongst us. With all good wishes

Yours sincerely, J.D. O'Connell

THE ORIGINAL LETTER SENT BY
J.D. O'CONNELL FROM IRELAND



OSWALD MOSLEY IN 1921

Dear Sir Oswald,

I had the pleasure of meeting you in 1921 in connection with the "Peace with Ireland" Council of which you were an active member. It seems a long time ago but I remember with gratitude the noble work then done by your colleagues and your good self during the reign of terror of the "Black and Tans" in this country. The people of County Kerry who were the most to suffer appreciate it too and I can assure you that your good name will be remembered here long after those who now try to belittle you will be clean forgotten.



THE SHAVEN CROWN TODAY

We are neutral in the present turmoil. If you and Lady Mosley are at liberty to come here we should be very happy indeed to receive you in our own poor and humble ways. On my own behalf and on behalf of the people of this country I ask you both to come for the duration, and leave present controversies about your release to subside. We in this country have been called nasty names and we have experience in internment camps, and so we understand your position. The people of this country may not be thought much of elsewhere but one thing that can be said for them is that they are always grateful to anyone that ever helped them or said a kind word for them in their hour of need and trouble. That is where you and your colleagues of the 1921 Council come in. Along with you I remember Mr Arthur Greenwood, M.P., Mr Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty, and Lord Simon. You may recollect questions having been raised by you in the House of Commons concerning events and atrocities at the Co-operative Creamery at Ballyniac Elliogot, Co. Kerry. It was in connection with these that I called on one occasion at Smith Square. I remember you had then a Private Secretary and parliamentary Secretary as well. The latter had some idea that the matters were not as represented but the difficulty was surmounted.

I trust both you and Lady Mosley are on the mend. I too know what internment means and all our womenfolk know it. I shall be glad to hear from you in due course and once again I extend an earnest invitation to you both to come amongst us.

With all good wishes,

Yours sincerely,

J.D. O'Connell.

Here was a man representing a community who remembered with gratitude a young Westminster politician, the baby of the house, who bravely spoke out against the unwarranted brutality of the Black and Tans, an unruly group of British sponsored criminal mercenaries set loose on the Irish people. In his letter Mr O'Connell referred to those troubled times and wrote about Mosley's parliamentary intervention on behalf of the people of Ireland.

GREAT WHITE HOPE

It is worth recalling those early months of 1921 remembering just how strongly Mosley had fought for justice on one aspect of the Irish question. He accused the Prime Minister, Lloyd George and his Government of pursuing a deliberate course of state sponsored murder.

"The crimes of Sinn Fein were bad, but crime committed by a British Government was much

worse. It was an appalling spectacle to see the weapon wielded by the hands of British Government. They had never denied the charge. A murder gang working under the auspices of the Government was the capital feature of the situation. Wherever murder breaks out, is there to be a licence to kill in revenge instead of the time-honoured method of bringing the murderers to justice? Their only defence was to put forward the crimes of Sinn Fein, as if two blacks made a white. They now stood silenced and convicted before the tribunal of public opinion". To add weight to his argument Mosley who was still a Coalition Member would deliberately cross the floor of the house and sit on the opposition benches during the debates on the Black and Tans. One of the finest passages in his speech was delivered with enormous conviction.

"I believe that the Government administration in Ireland today is striking at the very roots of human existence. I believe they are traversing and challenging the immutable law that trustees of civilisations cannot commit murder with impunity as they have committed murder and that they cannot make war on women and children, as they do make war on women and children and have driven the starving out into the night. In the light of that fact the crimes of Sinn Fein are a less terrible blot that the scar which has wrought by the weapons of murder in the hands of the British Government".

It was a speech of a courageous Englishman whose feelings were outraged by the reign of terror established in Ireland to kill all political agitation. A parliamentary correspondent wrote an eyewitness account of Mosley's memorable speech.

"Mr Mosley is one of the few men of promise, he never speaks without striking out with graceful phrase and he never fails to produce ideas. Last night he spoke with mastery, emotion and eloquence. The Ministers jeered at him and despised his youth, but he retorted with force. No bolder speech has been made in this house".

ISLAND PRISON

People who act on behalf of an oppressed minority in a dire hour of need are remembered. Twenty-three years later the Irish offered the Mosleys a safe haven. In his letter, O'Connell held out the invitation, but with the vindictive Home Secretary, Herbert Morrison, in charge, the chances of allowing such a move was nil. The Government's vendetta had another five and a half years to run before the Mosleys were finally given back their passports in June 1949.

The largest Mosley meeting in the World

For more than two years the Oswald Mosley website, produced on behalf of the Friends of Mosley, has continued to attract several thousand new visitors each month from around the world.

Using a dramatic combination of words, sound and pictures, it tells the true story of this outstanding man, the Movements that he led and the ideas that he fought for.

The visitor soon discovers a combination of intellect, courage and sacrifice that could have saved Great Britain from becoming a Third World country – and brought about the renaissance of our country and our continent.

This important Internet site also relives the heroic story of Mosley's Blackshirts who dared all in a revolt against destiny that is without precedent in British political history.

Among the web pages on www.oswaldmosley.com are:

Sir Oswald Mosley – British politician and philosopher 1896-1980 **The British Union of Fascists** – 1932-1940 **Colour photos** of the 1939 British Union Day march **Union Movement** 1948-1986 **Sound recordings of the Earls Court Peace Rally** (1939) and the British Union Marching Song **Union Movement – Key Issues** including 'European Socialism' and 'Government of Tomorrow' **Extracts from Mosley's major books** such as 'The Greater Britain' (1932) and 'Tomorrow We Live' (1938) **Sound recordings of 'Comrades in Struggle'** (1938) and Mosley's memorable 1962 speech at Kensington Town Hall **Free e-books including the complete version of Mosley's historic Earls Court speech** and William Buckley's interview with Mosley **In depth profiles of leading Mosley followers** including Alexander Raven Thomson, Jeffrey Hamm, Olive Hawks, Neil Francis Hawkins and Robert Row **Roll of Honour** listing many of the British Blackshirts who died fighting for their country in the Second World War **Free e-book: 'The Regulation 18b British Union Detainees List'** – full details of more than 800 Mosleyites imprisoned without trial for their political beliefs **Books to order: My Life**, the autobiography of Oswald Mosley; paperback £5.00 Hardback £15.00 post paid. **Blackshirts-on-Sea** – The story of the Blackshirt Summer Camps 1933-1938 £18.00 post paid £21.00 overseas.

A visit to the Oswald Mosley website is an essential experience for everybody with an interest in the Man 'whose footsteps are indelible in the sands of time'. And for everyone who despite all retains hope for the future.



www.oswaldmosley.com

We continue Blackshirt and D Day Paratrooper Robert Richard's memories of Newcastle Branch. A district leader, he recalls the momentous year of 1938 and how national events were capitalised on in order to increase local membership.

HOW THE BUF CAME TO GEORDIELAND

The government announced in January 1938 that all children were to be issued with gas masks and schools would provide regular gas mask drills. Also, that a mock 'black-out' exercise was to take place in a major city - Leicester.

The North East of England experienced a continuous spell of severe weather, which had commenced in early Dec. '37 and continued throughout January '38. Despite 'gritty' efforts by the most hardy young members ('Z' section), 'Action' street sales were drastically reduced. The foremost topic of conversation among Branch members ('grounded' by the weather) was centred around the serious injury inflicted upon OM by 'red' hooligans in Liverpool the previous October. A factor contributing to this near fatal incident was considered to be the imposition of the new Public Order Act, by an inexperienced and unprepared police force.

RENEWED VIGOUR

With the breaking of the severe and restricting weather, the street sales-teams became fully operational during February. However, by this time a considerable number of unsold 'Action' copies, numbering several hundred, had accumulated. It was imperative that good use be made of this "British Union News" surplus. Clearly, the easiest way would be a free distribution, but how best in order to get a beneficial return?

It was decided that a door-to-door delivery in a 'specially chosen area' would be the method. This area would lie within the Newcastle Central Parliamentary constituency (this constituency in the '35 General Election had revealed an exceptionally large number of non-balloted votes). The aim would be to deliver one copy to every third dwelling. The thinking behind this was comparatively thin coverage as against a saturation 'drop' was twofold:

- 1) A much wider residential area would be covered;
- 2) Neighbourhood interest would be aroused together with curiosity as to why some were missed-out

The task to organise and carry-out this operation was allocated to the 'Z' section of the Harrier Group. In addition to the 'distribution' they enthusiastically undertook a coinciding target: to a) "draw public attention" and b) "excite local comment!". The method they were to employ turned out to be somewhat novel.

Following a thorough and detailed briefing of about two dozen volunteers sometime before the actual 'drop', the section stood-by. It had been

decided to wait for British Summer-time to be in operation. This would enable an evening daylight distribution to take place, also a suitable political situation receiving maximum media attention would 'trigger' the event.

Although 'Z' section were standing-by they were by no means idle. Splitting into two sub-sections each numbering between 10 to 15 personnel, they continued to turnout for regular publicity training runs.

The dividing of the section was to some degree enforced due to more of the younger members having enrolled for service with HM Services Reserves (RN; TA; RAF). The growing momentum of the part-time military training commitment presented difficulties in planning regular BU public activities.

Nevertheless each of the 'Z' sub-sections continued to cover different parts of the city suburbs about once every 10 days: "Left-Right-Left-Right-For whom do we fight?-Left-Right-We fight for Britain ONLY!" These vocal publicity exercises were repeated every few minutes during the 'runs', which were covering a distance of six to eight 'neighbourhood' miles.

AN IMPOSSIBLE PACT

In March the government revealed a considerable rise in rearmament expenditure. It was widely reported that £11m. was to be spent on new RAF aerodromes. Later in the same month the Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain, was called upon to defend the rapid rise in the rearmament programme. He spoke of: "... the almost terrifying power ..." which Britain was building in its rearmament programme. In a policy statement the Prime Minister informed the House of Commons that: "Britain was ready to go to war to defend France and Belgium against

unprovoked aggression".

Public concern was deepening throughout Britain and no less on Tyneside, where unemployment 'dole-queues' were noticeably shrinking as the naval shipyards, armament and munitions factories became increasingly active.

The press was relentlessly manipulating the deepening public concern; slanted and biased information allegedly emanating from authoritative sources regarding the 'aims' of the Germanic political union taking place in Central Europe was adding to an inexorable build-up of public tension and misleading public opinion. When in late April the entire press hyped reports of an: "Anglo-French Pact to defend the Czech people", the decision was taken that 'Now' was the time to distribute the surplus copies of "Action". The date would be May 1st - MAY DAY.



A CONSISTENT ASPECT OF THE NEWCASTLE BRANCH WAS GOING OUT AND MAKING CONTACT WITH THE PEOPLE. IN THIS CASE THROUGH THE SALE OF B.U. NEWSPAPERS INFORMING THE PUBLIC

The number of 'Geordie' volunteers assembling in Lovain Crescent outside the BU HQ on the 'Day' exceeded the six teams (each of 4 personnel) who had previously received the detailed briefing and practice. Two of the teams included female volunteers. Everyone was wearing their usual 'harrier' running gear. Two members in each team carried a knapsack; each knapsack contained a supply of 'Action'. The six teams, plus a dozen or so additional volunteers formed up into a double column; the 'Teams' at the rear in the pre-planned order. The area targeted for the 'drop' was about a mile from the HQ.

The column set-off jogging out-of-step, affecting a sort of informality. Arriving at the target-area and entering upon the circuit-route, which encompassed

the entire target-area, the column whilst still moving closed-up into the 3 abreast in-step formation ('Z' section drill!). As the column jogged past the end of each targeted street the designated team detached itself from the column and went into action: working two personnel to each side of the street. With their particular 'drop' accomplished the team then rejoined the column and continued the circuit jog.

At intervals during the actual 'drop' phase the Column, which had assumed the three-abreast formation, would give one of their 'in-step chants' i.e.: 'left-right' or '2-4-6-8' etc. This served a dual purpose: a) it drew attention on the neighbourhood, and b) it let the teams in action know from time-to-time where the column was on the circuit.

The reader may consider this method of operation unnecessarily complex rather than 'novel', well maybe, but bear in mind: the British Union as a political movement was confronted by a complete 'media silence' and the people of Britain were being brain-washed and mesmerised as 'darkening cloud-of-war' covered the entire European horizon for the second time in little more than on

generation! The situation we believed required a neoteric approach - an operation of impressive quality!; careful planning and preparation were essential ingredients e.g.: a) a detailed briefing; b) a measured and timed 'drop' by a single team provided a yard-stick for estimating the time scale, and c) a rehearsal run (without chant or distribution) over a comparable circuit-route in another part of the City ensured that the teams taking part understood what would be expected of them on the 'day'. Further, the choosing of different practice and rehearsal areas and maintaining silence contributed to 1) drawing minimum attention and, 2) it helped in keeping the location of the chosen target-area under 'wraps' until the chosen 'Date'. The thinking behind this tactic

was to reduce the risk of a counter-demonstration and possible RHG interference.

WIDENING THE MESSAGE

Over the next two to three months efforts to keep a regular level of street sales-points manning was an increasing difficulty as the spare-time of many members was taken-up by the training requirements of the local Anti-Aircraft unit. The Harrier Group publicity exercises were similarly effected: "Living like athletes had become, almost overnight, practising as part-time soldiers!"

The unexpected announcement at the end of June that the usual annual Territorial Army training camps for 1938 were to be extended from two to four weeks for all anti-aircraft regiments, added to the already heightened public apprehension and tension throughout Britain. Consequently during the whole month of July the 'Geordie' 'Action' street sales-teams were much depleted. Nevertheless, those still available stuck doggedly to the job – somehow the 'Mosley Message' had to continue to be made available to people.

Come August and the completion of the Tyneside anti-aircraft defence units participation in the nationwide military exercise 'Couverture', the 'Geordie' (khaki battledress) Blackshirts returned to 'civvy-street', and into British Union action. Street-sales being the foremost activity; such was their dedication!; such was their faith!; such was their patriotism!

MOVING ON

It was submitted that since the end of 1937, the Branch HQ had become chiefly a British Union literature and "Action" Sales Agency, and for those activities the present location seemed 'OK'; on the other hand the space rented was now more than needed for those purposes, furthermore the up-keep costs were high and also, in the coming year (1939) the rent and rates charges would be increased.

Another viewpoint was that since moving out from the City-centre it had become more difficult to make speedy contact with some of the members. The previous central location had had the advantage of being within minutes of the veritable hub of the public transport interchange system; also public services; administration and commercial offices; major stores and shops; entertainment and restaurants; all within an approximate 500 yards radius. It could be said that most of the City's adult population would visit the 'downtown' area at least once in every week and many, more often. The facility to 'call-in' ('pop-in') to Branch HQ whilst in day-to-day transit, or whatever, was an invaluable

communications link and this was needed now more than ever! (NB. The reader is reminded that in those days the 'home-phone' was a luxury, in fact a rarity, nor did the Branch own a typewriter! The Branch communications 'network' depended almost wholly upon word-of-mouth!) The decision was clear: "move!", "re-locate!"; "the sooner the better!"; "tomorrow we live – or possibly die!"

WAR FEVER

The possibility of war was now clearly uppermost in peoples' mind, the public disquiet was very evident. Also in evidence was a distinct change of public attitude and feeling towards the Movement. Many 'Action' purchasers were asking questions e.g. "Will there be war?" ... "What can Mosley do now?" ... "Is Hitler bluffing?" ... Or "Do you think Hitler should be stopped?". The standard answer was "Read Mosley ... take an extra copy for a friend!". On the other hand there was also some vocal opposition growing when from time-to-time there would be a shouted: "On whose side are you ... Nazi!", which was met by an equally loud rejoinder: "I'm ready to fight for Britain! – are you?"

On a few occasions this aggravation would result in a punch or two being thrown and for a few moments a sales-pitch would be disrupted. It was however gratifying when immediately following such a minor fracas there would be a number of extra copies purchased!

The naval shipyards, the armament and munition factories on Tyneside continued to buzz with a growing momentum. Overtime was adding more money to the weekly pay-packet of many workers. Many of whom for several years had, together with their families, existed at the unemployment 'dole' subsistence level. This created an illusory feeling of personal involvement in the events about to unfold.

August 30th: It is announced that the British Cabinet is holding an emergency meeting to discuss the mounting Czech crisis.

There is a subdued acceptance of the situation by many workers and their dependents.

August 31st: Sir John Simon, Chancellor of the Exchequer, restates the warning given by the Prime Minister in March, saying: "That declaration still holds good today!"

Then followed two weeks of rumour, slanted speculation, and manipulated misinformation circulated by a variety of sources, preparing the British people for the worst!

September 14th: Martial law is reported to have been brought



OSWALD MOSLEY LEADS A MARCHING COLUMN OF NEWCASTLE MEMBERS ACROSS TOWN MOOR

into effect in Czechoslovakia.

September 23rd: It is announced that general mobilisation has taken place in Czechoslovakia.

September 25th: The press reports a rush in London for gas masks following the escalated tension.

September 26th: The British fleet is mobilised. The territorial Army anti-aircraft defence units embark upon a seven-days 'test' mobilisation.

September 28th: A Four Power Conference comprising: Britain, Germany, France and Italy is convened in Munich.

September 30th: The Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain arrives back in Britain from the Munich Conference, stepping from his aircraft triumphantly waving aloft to a waiting world-press a document, and smilingly declares: "PEACE! IN OUR TIME".

The press and radio momentarily marking-time, ostensibly joined the nation's feeling of relief. But within 72 hours this same media was bringing into sharp focus serious divisions of opinion within the influential upper political circles. The word "Appeasement" was rapidly assuming a hard derogatory political emphasis, and was soon being used to relegate "Peace" in Europe.

Returning from the 'brink-of-war' the 'Z' section of the BU 'Geordie' Branch was by October back to near full strength activities. However, the 'Munich Crisis' experience had effected a change in the previous 'bubbling-effervescence' of the young zealots. Their demeanour had clearly changed; their determination now had a grimness and harder edge.

TRUE GRIT

The young Mosley Blackshirts were born of the generation who had fought and died in the bloodbath of "The Great War 1914 to 1918"; their generation

had lived through and survived what history would call the: "The Great Depression". With them Britain would always come first! "Whatever the future held in-store for them, come what may, they would hold a place in the history of Britain".

THE STRUGGLE GOES ON

Following the Anniversary gathering a special team of six personnel worked in conjunction with the street sales-teams on each of the remaining weekends up to Christmas '38. Their job was to carry two "Action" poster bill-boards slung from the shoulders, back and front:

One poster read "TOMORROW WE LIVE", and the other "MOSLEY FOR PEACE".

Their task was to line-up along the pavement-edge each member alternatively facing the road or pavement. In this formation they would chant in unison: "Read all about it" ... "Read Mosley". After several minutes the 'team' would move slowly in single file to the next "Action" sales-pitch and repeat the demonstration; cinema and theatre queues were also included. Whilst the total number of OM's book ("Tomorrow We Live") sold during these exercise is now beyond recall, the highlight of the 'drive' coming approximately midway through the period when on one afternoon seven copies were sold within one hour!

Such was the measure of what we thought at the time was: 'success' when the press was relentlessly manipulating public opinion in the wake of the Munich Crisis.

1938: a year of: 'brainwashing'; 'brinkmanship' and 'war crisis' concluded with two significant newspaper reports:

December 1st: The ('peace in our time') government of Neville Chamberlain announced plans for a National Register: "Everyone was to be designated for a wartime job". At long last! Fight

SORRY ABOUT THAT

A new museum has opened in Moscow. It celebrates 86 years of bloodshed and terror perpetrated by the K.G.B. previously known as the Cheka and now reincarnated as the Federal Security Forces (F.S.B.).

Its founder, Felix Dzerzhinsky with the tacit approval of Lenin was responsible for unleashing the 'Red Terror' throughout the Soviet Union. The result was over 20 million perishing by starvation, working to death or direct assassination. Among the gruesome exhibits of bloodshed clothing armoury and documents is a list of names with a single cross hand written against the typed columns of names. It transpires that Lenin was in the habit of putting a X on documents to remind himself that he had read the paper. Dzerzhinsky misinterpreted one such notation as an instruction to kill everyone on the list.

In a single night 1500 prisoners were put to death. It was a mistake but went without even a reprimand for the blood lusting Felix. For years his statue dominated the square in front of the Lubyanka, but was pulled down by pro-democracy activists in 1991.

In 2003 a call has gone out for its re-erection in front of the infamous Charnel House. Perhaps a simple test for the Putin regime is whether such a monster is to be commemorated. Let's not forget that Russia's First Minister was for years an active and highly successful member of the K.B.G.

HOW THE BUF CAME TO GEORDIELAND

years after Oswald Mosley had resigned his ministerial post because of the government's failure to act on the problem of unemployment, the Chamberlain Government had found a solution! At long last we were to have - Full Employment!

December 21st: The Government reveals plans for enormous expenditure on building air-raid shelters. Winston Churchill had declared that these were "indispensable", and proper precautions would make air-attack not worthwhile.

Before concluding, mention must be made of the spate of graphic slogans that appeared overnight i.e.: "MOSLEY FOR PEACE"; "FOLLOW MOSLEY"; "MIND BRITAIN'S BUSINESS", each



'Mosley alone rose to the height of the challenge ... his proposals offered a blueprint for most of the constructive advances in economic thinking to the present day ... an astonishing achievement, evidence of a superlative talent.'

A.J.P. Taylor

MY LIFE

The autobiography of Sir Oswald Mosley is still in print and available. Hardback £15. Paperback £5. Cheques payable to 'Brockingday'. Send to Brockingday, 27 Old Gloucester Street, London. WC1N 3XX.

bracketed by the 'circle and flash' symbol of British Union. They were daubed in 30" lettering alongside several busy traffic routes throughout Tyneside.

And so we come to the end of a year of government 'brinkmanship' and 'war crisis'; of media 'brainwashing' and news 'manipulation', and to quote OM: "British Union's deep quarrel with the virtually unanimous policy of the old parties is that it has sacrificed both the interests of Britain and of world peace to a political vendetta. Particularly we denounce the pursuit of that feud to the risk of British lives and world catastrophe because it is dictated by a subversive to the vile international interests which command the old parties".

To be concluded

Mosley

Policy and Debate

This collection of essays taken from the European was published by Euphorian Books.

Copies of the original 160-page edition can be obtained from BCM/FOM, London. WC1N 3XX.

Please make cheques for £3 payable to : FOM.

(Condition can best be described as being reasonable to good).

COMRADE

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William Swift continued from page 8

Although freed, his life had effectively been destroyed solely by the testimony of just two men: Cecil Rashleigh and Joseph Baron.

BARON 'SELECTED BY MI5 FOR THE PURPOSE'

A few years ago, some papers came to light that included a memo written by Sir Alexander Maxwell who had been Permanent Under Secretary at the Home Office from 1938 to 1948. He was one of the most powerful men in the Home Office: the government department responsible for the police and criminal matters.

The memo* was about the case of William Swift and was written by Maxwell on 4 June 1946. To say the least, it lets a very large cat out of the bag. In this memo, which was initialled by Maxwell with alterations in ink in his own hand, he states:

1. "a man called Rashleigh, and apparently used by MI5 as their agent..."
2. "Rashleigh at this point must have been acting on police or MI5 instructions"
3. "A Corporal Baron who presumably had been selected by MI5 for the purpose"
4. "It appears to have been part of Rashleigh's job to try and lead Swift on"
5. "A man called Rashleigh who was sent to him (Swift) in the guise of a prospective member of British Union"

Of course, at Swift's trial it was never mentioned that the only two witnesses against him (providing the only evidence against him) were both MI5 or police agents. It is well known that British Courts of Law have a particular dislike for agent provocateurs.

We will probably never know whether William Swift was fitted up, stitched up and sent down for the equivalent of a life sentence by the local police, Special Branch, MI5 or the Government of War wishing to make an example and a deterrent out of Swift.

What we do know is that William Swift was an honourable man who never betrayed his country. His only 'crime' was to bravely speak out against an unnecessary war, as he saw it, that before it ended was to cost the lives of 60 million people worldwide.

*Home Office 45 Group, document 24464

Random Notes on 18B

Among the papers of William H. Wood, a permanent member of the B.U. staff based in Leeds, Yorkshire was a number of enigmatic handwritten notes. Related to his time of incarceration at the pleasure of His Majesty's Government. Compiled after his release as a possible aide-memoir they give a graphic insight into life behind the wire (barbed).

One can only imagine the terrible upheaval and distress caused by a knock on the door, instant arrest and often imprisonment for years without charge or trial experienced by men and women members and supporters of British Union. That was the lot of people caught up in the cobbled together, rushed through Parliament, put on the statute book Rule 18B. The fall out of relationships together with acute financial problems is an injustice never addressed by the current crop of liberal do-gooders. Perceived wrongs going back to the slave trade and beyond can be highlighted but never the plight of a group of ultra loyal British subjects who faithfully followed their leader's edict. **To our members my message is plain and clear. Our country is involved in war. Therefore, I ask you to do nothing to injure our country, or to help any other power.**

SEVEN STAGES OF 18b

JUNE 1940 -

NOVEMBER 1941

1) Liverpool (Walton)

Collection in Leeds. Bradwell - coach. Reception on hot June day. Over 100- delays and hastily prepared old disused wing. Weeks of rearranging programme of work recreation etc. Parson v. Governor. Railway cutting - pigeons etc. Transit prison - some to Brixton. Others to Ascot - circus winter quarters army control - delays in mail parcels etc. Harsh conditions in roughly prepared camps.

Mixed 18b pop. Including Italians etc. Slow drift to Brixton - some released.

2) Brixton

Larger cells - almost luxury after Walton and association better. Exercise in grounds with many old friends and top personalities. Mosley - Capt. Ramsey (M.P. for Peebles) N.F.S. water static tanks. Blimps and search lights. Brompton Oratory - Burlington House 4 hr vigil. Sir N. Birkett + (Co. activities etc.

Return to Brixton and Mosley quiz - with options promise to join up on release. U.K?

Haircuts - cigs - Raven Thomson and others

3) Stafford

From Brixton after Star Chamber awaiting verdict of Adv. Council Shuttle type separate building enclosed cabbage gardens

Staff shortage and self service - Brown quaint alcove gas lighting and blackouts

Mixed 18b's doubtfuls - Korntza etc. Some recreation - caterpillar collecting. Separated condemned to waiting

Friendly parson and air raid Siemens. Garner + Co. sorties women's wing.



WILLIAM H WOOD IN LATER LIFE

Move to York racecourse camp in Dec.

4) York Racecourse Camp

Distribution of detainees - grandstand. Tote buildings and offices- hospital. Dining hall and cooking arrangements. Sunday services - Catholics and Italians Comm. Hudson.

Playing fields for football etc. Military control visits in small separate building M.P.s supervised. Home Office permits.

Christmas celebration - Italian café farce. Winter weather - snow fights. Terry's towel in background.

Some plays - entertainment old members guarding on other side of wire.

Pennels - Downing - Lister released - Wiseman Inky Irving canteen stamp farce.

5) Huyton

Rail trip though blitzed M/cr. Walk to camp. Housing estate fenced off. Council houses. Room with dormer window shared (2).

Cooking arrangements Germans and Italians. - escapees' nominal roll call: bands humour. Previous occupants - hut with old equipment fire - one left hanging in loft!

Introduction to Blitz technique. Chandelier flares on parachutes. Tracer bullets and A.A. fire 8pm. Sky glow and later petrol bombs and land mines 8 nights and unlighted camp complaint.

Marching orders to docks and I.O.M

6) Journey to I.O.M

Slow trip and escort of 2 corvettes. Depth charges - delay at Douglas March to station at 3am.

Train to Peel and march to camp. Shore Rd. Craig Malin army H.Q. Top houses, Holiday houses 4 story at front. Arranged duties on 1/2 army ration issue 9am roll call parade.

Some entertainments - bowls, swimming trip, water babies Italian cafes - trading in cigs spends. Train trip on drainage at Glen Loch (Crosby). Trout stream. Mists.

Armley trip missed. Peel riot and police change. New roll call style - top house. Notified of release - Nov. 1941. Home.

7) Home Coming

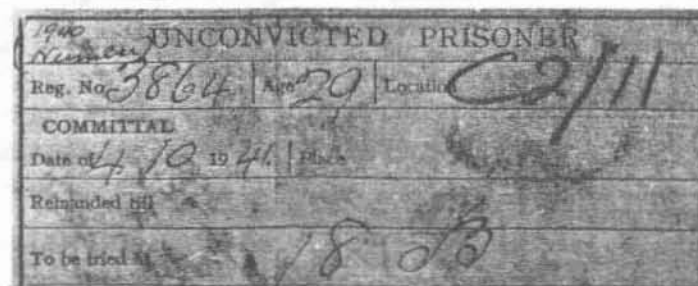
After 18 months June '40 to Nov. 41. Journey home from Peel under military escort to Liverpool - them by train. Italian Mieile as companion from trench dig at Glen Loch.

Released night home for confirm? Leopold Rd. shop and starting again. Keeping home fires burning?

Atkinsons looking and leaflet distribution. Medical exam farce - Grade 4. Dr McKinnon exam. Fire watching.

Monthly report to police - Abbot friendly cop. Jewish attack - Jackson Special Const.?

For further information on the life of W.H. Wood please refer to his obituary in *Comrade* 48.



WILLIAM WOOD'S 'DO NOT GET OUT OF JAIL' CARD

O.M. = C.D. @ £5. each

After considerable success over the years in offering audio cassette tapes connected with Sir Oswald Mosley. **Friends of Mosley** announce the re-release of three titles in the advanced format of C.D. As owners of the original recordings we have, with the aid of modern technology taken advantage of re-mastering the tapes. Due to the age of some of the recordings, this technique has its limitations. Three C.Ds are now on offer.

MOSLEY SPEAKS: originally released to commemorate the 60th anniversary of B.U. First 21 months of British Union. Song of Union 1957. Manchester Free Trade Hall 1958. North Kensington General Election 1959. Acton Town Hall 1960 plus other recordings.

MOSLEY'S ANSWERS: a feature of every Mosley meeting was the time allowed for questions from the audience. Birmingham 1958. Acton 1960.

MOSLEY'S MEN: a testament of faith by members of British Union and Union Movement. Together with a speech by Sir Oswald Mosley recorded in Bournemouth in 1958.

These C.Ds are offered at £5.00 each or £12.00 for all three ordered at the same time. All orders are post free. Please send a cheque or P.O. in favour of F.O.M. to BCM/FOM, London, WC1N 3XX.

As with all articles for sale in *Comrade* any profit goes directly into our funds to help us continue to propagate Mosley's concept of **Europe A Nation.**

Reginald Goodall

Great English Wagnerian

In the world of music Barbirolli, Solti, Beecham, Boult and Sergent are still revered. The consistent re-issue of their classical recordings ensures a well-deserved posthumous recognition. The name of Reginald Goodall is less known but of equal importance.

Any readers who are opera-goers will probably have heard of 'Reggie' Goodall, who when he died in 1990, had outlived the years in which his talents were neglected, to be eventually recognised as the greatest British conductor of Wagner's music.

His musical life started in Lincoln, where he was born, and he attended the Cathedral choir school in 1910. The choir master was certainly no namby-pamby, but was capable of dragging out an erring choirboy by the ear during a service, or hauling him out by the collar. He was also in the habit of sticking his nicotine stained fingers into the boys' mouths to make sure they were kept wide open! More importantly for young Reggie, this man had studied in Germany, and it was his playing Bach and Wagner on the organ, which awakened the young choristers love for German music.

Eventually Goodall came to London and studied at the Royal College of Music, later having a long association with the fine church of St Alban the Martyr in Holborn, where he was organist and choirmaster. A German singer, Rheinhold Warlich, took him as his accompanist during several visits to Germany and Austria, the final occasion being

in 1935. Here he was impressed by the industrial revival, the building of the autobahns and the fall in unemployment, as well as, of course, the Berlin Philharmonic and the great Wagner Festival at Bayreuth.

COMMITMENT

Five days after the British declaration of war on Germany on 3rd September 1939, Goodall joined the South Kensington branch of the BUF, an extraordinary act of courage and conviction. He attended some of its meetings and during his time as conductor of a wartime orchestra in Bournemouth, he handed out BUF leaflets calling for a negotiated peace with Germany - in addition to writing a few slogans on walls and pavements! He once got himself arrested, but influential friends managed to get him released in time to conduct a concert that evening. It was probably fortunate for him that he was regarded as a harmless eccentric, but some of us might have other ideas on that!

A milestone for Goodall was the first performance of Benjamin Britten's new opera 'Peter Grimes', which he conducted, on 7th June 1945, exactly a month after the surrender of Germany. Sadler's Wells theatre was



REGINALD GOODALL

packed to bursting point with the cream of the music world. It was a euphoric occasion later to be recognised as a watershed in British music. Reggie's private thoughts were probably less euphoric. His only comment about the war in his diary was "After five and a half years of unnecessary hell and war, unconditional surrender". He had been called up for army service, but was later invalided out as being totally unfit. In 1943 he entered the Roman Catholic Church (as his wife had done) at Brompton Oratory.

For years he was on the payroll of the Royal Opera House (Covent Garden) but he was rarely seen on the rostrum although his name was kept on the programmes as an 'assistant'. He used to make himself valuable away from the public eye, coaching singers in a little room high up in the building, just under the roof - a trudge up many flights of stairs. This room became known as 'Valhalla'!

RECOGNITION

The years of neglect eventually came to an end in 1966, back in Sadler's Wells once more, that little theatre in Roseberry Avenue which has seen so much musical history. The company had decided to put on Wagner's 'The Mastersingers', having found that it had the strengths needed for mounting this large-scale opera. Singers like Norman Bailey and Alberto Remedios (originally a welder in the Liverpool shipyards) had not previously had the airing they deserved, and Goodall was called in to conduct. The rest is history: he went on to conduct Wagner's 'Ring' and many other works, becoming a cult-figure of opera. He was knighted in 1985 for services to music. In his excellent and sympathetic biography "Reggie" - the life of Reginald Goodall (out of print, of course!) John Lucas touches on the man's beliefs: "He did not try to cover up his Mosleyite past: 'It's what I thought at the time' he said, 'I can't change that!'"

His career was celebrated in a BBC Omnibus television programme in 1984. His relatively meagre legacy of recorded work does at least convey his exceptional talent. He died in 1990 aged 88 and was buried near Canterbury next to his wife, Eleanor.

W.H.

Reggie: the life of Reginald Goodall

By John Lucas

Julia MacRae Books

ISBN 1-85681-05-8

F.O.M. MISSION STATEMENT

Founded in 1982, the purpose of FRIENDS OF MOSLEY was to bind together all those who through the years had supported Mosley in his long march for the soul of Great Britain. This initially took the form of dinners and socials held all over the country. These events were often attended by Lady Mosley. In 1986 the newsletter COMRADE was launched. Under the professional editorship of John Christian, this initial single sheet of A4 has grown in over 50 editions to be the authoritative voice of the life and works of Sir Oswald Mosley. It may comment on current issues but it is not involved in day to day political campaigning. It fully endorses and does campaign for the Mosley doctrine of a United States of Europe. Not to be confused with the ultimate P.C. gravy trains of Brussels and Strasbourg. It is sent without subscription to all former Mosley supporters who request it, widening over the years to include Universities and Institutions around the world. In addition to historians, lecturers, postgraduates and bona fide researchers who recognise the worth of an authoritative source of information. Added to this a younger generation born too late to have any direct link but who are keen to know more about the Mosley story. F.O.M. has no formal membership. The mailing lists are never disclosed. It never seeks funding but exists on voluntary donations from those who are appreciative of the work. We simply exist to perpetuate that unique Mosleyite band of brotherhood that future generations of Europeans can grasp in order to build a noble society out of the struggle and sacrifice of Mosley's men.

THE SPIRIT LIVES ... THE REST WILL FOLLOW

Old Comrades



Sir Frederick Lawton



Son of a prison governor, Fred spent most of his childhood in the shadow of Wandsworth Prison.

After attending Battersea Grammar School he went up to Corpus Christi College, Cambridge. In 1932, he founded The Cambridge University Fascist Association. Early membership of British Union lead on to his being chosen as the Blackshirt prospective Parliamentary candidate for Hammersmith North.

Gaining a First Class Historical Tripos he wrote with J.P. Eddy 'India's New Constitution'. After winning legal scholarships he was called to the Bar in 1935. He often gave his time to represent B.U. members who found themselves in court.

An interesting case with later more serious ramifications was held at the Surrey Quarter Sessions at Kingston on 23rd September 1937. Fred Lawton defended four British Union members accused of breaking into a bungalow at Farnham and stealing a quantity of books and documents, the property of Wilfred Foulston Vernon, an Air Ministry civil servant. The four B.U. defendants Ford, Mann, Preen and Dawson stated they were in the bungalow for twenty minutes "To secure seditious and bolshevik literature, in order to take it to Whitehall". In cross-questioning Vernon, Lawton asked, "You are acquainted with the conditions of the Civil Service that its members should not participate in active political work?"

Vernon: "I know the regulation" Lawton: "In the police court you describe yourself as a 'student of affairs' is that right? - Yes. And the type of affairs you took a great interest in are what are often known as Left outlook - the outlook of the Socialist and Communist Parties in this country? - I am a Socialist."

Lawton: Not a Communist? - No In further cross examination

Vernon admitted he belonged to the Left Book Club (run by the Communist, Victor Gollancz)

Lawton: the point is that these men thought they were doing a service to their country ... they should take his (Vernon's) papers along to the authorities and show what sort of man he was. Have a look at this letter. The opening sentence is Dear Wilfred - If you have turned into a very good voting Red, I take it then you will be satisfied that the Left book left behind at Green Hill has fulfilled the purpose".

You still say that you are not a Communist. Yes. A Communist is a member of the Communist Party, and I am not a member.

The chairman in his summing up directed the jury to bring in a verdict of not guilty of house breaking. As for stealing the goods, they received a nominal sentence of being bound over for twelve months.

Significantly on the 28th of September Wilfred Foulston Vernon was suspended by the Air Ministry from his duty as a civil servant. By order of the court, the 'stolen' documents were never returned.

During the war Vernon became a lecturer and demonstrator at a War Office Home Guard School. In the Labour election landslide of 1945 he became an M.P. for Dulwich. He died, aged 93, in 1975.

In his book *Venona: the greatest secret of the Cold War*, Nigel West (ex M.P. Rupert Allison) revealed that Soviet military intelligence GRU had supervised Vernon at the Air Ministry.

Soviet defector Oleg Gordievsky confirmed that one of the Soviet agents in the West was 'an Air Ministry official, Major Wilfred Vernon'. Lawton in that pre-war case had come close to exposing a Russian spy.

Just who were the patriots?

Around the same time, Lawton among a team of four was involved in secret negotiations with the Mosleys to obtain a radio concession from the continent to operate a radio wavelength to cover London and Eastern England. This, along the lines of Radio Normandy in France would broadcast popular music but not political propaganda, which would have defeated the object of the exercise. This would have supplied funding for British Union. A contract was finally signed with Germany in 1938 who wanted foreign currency. The project did not materialise because of the war.

During those years, Lawton's career took a meteoric rise, temporarily stalled by the second World War when he joined the London Irish Rifles. Invalided out in 1941, he returned to the Bar as a much sought after criminal advocate. Taking silk in 1957 he later became a recorder of Cambridge and was appointed a High Court Judge in 1961. In the same year, he was knighted. In 1972, the crowning of an illustrious career saw him made a Lord Judge of Appeal and a Privy Councillor. Sir Frederick gained respect from both sides of the law. After jailing the gangster Charlie Richardson for 25 years, Richardson later dedicated his autobiography to him.

In retirement, he felt a greater freedom to express his views becoming a trenchant letter writer to the newspapers. In an interview with The Daily Telegraph in 1987 he complained that the influence of the Civil Liberty's Lobby had got "completely out of hand".

His perception of sixteen years ago certainly has strong resonance today.

He remained on Comrades mailing list until his death.

John Linklett



John became politically aware in his early teens and his rite of passage to British Union was via membership of the Labour League of Youth.

Victory Park in East London was a regular meeting place for a great diversity of political organisations. Increasingly impressed with the British Union case he held back by his dislike of the Blackshirt uniform. His conversion finally came on an outing in 1937 to Hastings, where by chance he heard George Dunlop addressing a meeting on the sea front. The speaker reflected his own thoughts on the iniquities of unemployment, foreign investment and the undercutting of British Labour. He immediately resolved to join his local branch in East Ham. A stable membership of seventy members reflected a good cross section of local society, shopkeepers, school masters, factory workers, bank employees and the public services. Apart from selling the weekly papers; Blackshirt and Action he joined the Kentish Town to Trafalgar Square march where Mosley

spoke to a packed audience. Devoting a minimum of three evenings a week to branch activities, he later became its treasurer. In the phoney war period he helped in the Silvertown election. During the wholesale arrests of B.U. members, he was visited by Special Branch but surprisingly (to him) was not arrested. This gave him the freedom to take an active role in the 18b dependents fund that did so much to help alleviate poverty among the many wives and children left destitute by such a cruel and needless act. John embraced the new policy of Empire a Nation, with the break up of Empire and the advance of the USSR. He attended the founding meetings of Union Movement including the hotly contested sites at Ridley Road and on Hampstead Heath. Moving to Romford and the added responsibility of marriage, he needed to scale down his political activities. Remaining a loyal member, he still attended the larger meetings and dinners. John summarised his life by saying he regretted nothing. "I would go through it all again" Such people were the backbone of Mosleys call to the nation. We regret his passing and extend our sympathy to his family.

Frank Hawke



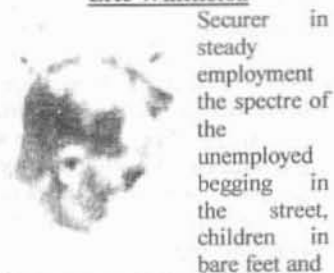
"This is the only man talking common sense". With these words father took his young son, Frank, to

the Finchley Branch in Long Lane where they both joined British Union.

Having voted Labour in 1929 this politically aware family, like so many others became progressively disillusioned over the years. Mosley offered hope. "A man who speaks without notes and doesn't repeat himself was a man of sincerity". This conclusion by the Hawk family meant a commitment of at least four evenings a week, attendance at all the major London meetings including stewarding at the giant Stop War Earls Court Rally. In retrospect, Frank thought that had Mosley's speech been broadcast nation wide no war would have followed. When the Finchley branch closed down at the outbreak of war, work continued, despite official harassment, from his home. Frank was about to join the R.A.F. and he wrote to the police threatening not to join if any further intrusion took place.

No more searches happened and Frank joined up. As in so many cases domestic responsibilities meant that after the war he did not feel able to resume an active role. In 1960 after a latter day reading of Mosley's seminal work, *The Alternative*, he walked into National Headquarters and joined Union Movement. He took an active role in the 1966 Shoreditch Election and became a regular at socials and dinners. Despite failing health, he joined F.O.M. and was one of the group who travelled to Paris to celebrate Lady Mosley's Birthday. He felt Mosley "was always ahead of the crowd. With other politicians it was jam tomorrow, something that never materialised". We salute a loyal comrade.

Eric Whittleton

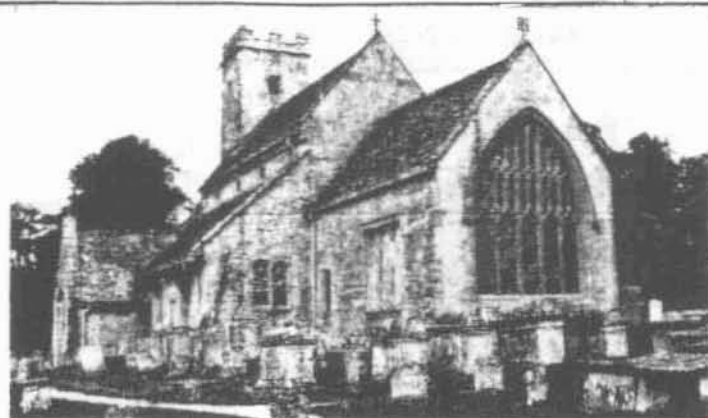


Securer in steady employment the spectre of the unemployed begging in the street, children in bare feet and hungry drove Eric at a very early age into political awareness.

As a member of the League of Loyalists, a group that loosely supported the Conservatives he gravitated to N.U.P.A. the youth wing of Mosley's New Party that survived its collapse after the election of 1931. Regular meetings were held in Chelsea, often addressed by a nucleus of people who a few months later were to join British Union. Eric's life consisted of being associated with firsts. He was at the launch of Mosley's book: *The Greater Britain*. A founder grey shirt member of British Union. At its inaugural outdoor meeting in Trafalgar Square. At the Mosley, Maxton debate chaired by David Lloyd George. Free Trade Hall, Belle Vue, Olympia, Albert Hall, Hyde Park et al. As an accomplished speaker he was in great demand on the various pitches maintained by his branch

at Ealing. He twice introduced Mosley at indoor meetings where he vividly remembered the deliberate time devoted to questions "Mosley always wanted to hear the public's view". He also took speakers and political classes at the Blackhouse, Chelsea. He applauded the move to Sanctuary Buildings in 1935 as this devolved more power to the branches. One exceptional piece of research on his part led the branch to hang slogan painted linen sheets on telegraph polls to avoid summons for fly posting by more conventional methods. After some rudimentary choir practice he took time off work to join the British Union Band at the Decca, Stockwell sound recording studios that formed the 78 10" disc *The Marching Song and Britain Awake*. Summer Camps, Earls Court. Joining the Royal Army Service Corps followed. He was tracked down to Barry Docks on the point of departure to Le Harve. Arrested under regulation 18b this he felt to be rather an irony when recalling this time in 1932 attending the Hendon Air Show when he handed out leaflets drawing attention to our weak Air Force and defences. Transported to Brixton, Eric recalls seeing Mosley covered in fleabites. Ascot, Stafford and Hyton followed. After a particularly heavy raid on neighbouring Liverpool, he was together with other detainees drafted into the bombed areas to help get people out of the rubble. The rescued could not believe that Fascist prisoners were prepared to help. Onward to the Isle of Man and eventual release. While embracing the post-war European ideal, Eric resolved not to get involved in the post-war Union Movement.

A career and family commitments had to take precedence. A pioneer is no longer with us. We salute a man who never wavered in his belief of Mosley and his ideals.



FUNERAL OF DIANA, LADY MOSLEY

Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoice in the truth. Beareth all things, believeth all things, endureth all things.

These words from I Corinthians were read by Catherine Hesketh, Lady Mosley's granddaughter, during the funeral service held at the church of St. Mary, Swinbrook, Oxfordshire on 19th August 2003, following her death in Paris.

The mourners were lead by her four sons, Lord Moyne (Jonathan Guinness), Desmond Guinness, Alexander and Max Mosley, her sister The Duchess of Devonshire together with other members of her family.

Among the loyal and staunch friends present were Lord St John of Fawsley, Mary Lovell, Selina Hastings, A.N. Wilson, Jerry Leane and representatives of F.O.M.

In a village that still echoes to the Redesdale family, it was a fitting location to say farewell, as she was laid to rest alongside the graves of three of her sisters; Pamela, Nancy and Unity.

The final chapter of a remarkable life.

Diana, Lady Mosley had returned from exile.

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH Thursday, September 4, 2003

In memoriam

"THEIR NAME LIVETH FOR EVERMORE"

BROCKING - DAY.—G.T. and K.G. The First Casualties World War 2: RAF 9 Sqn and Mosley's British Union. Volunteer air gunners killed in action Keil Canal, Sept. 4, 1939. F.O.M.

"My warning to you is to beware lest old age steal back to rob you of your reward. You must beware that these old dead men, with their old, dead minds embalmed in the tombs, do not creep back to dominate your new age.

You must beware lest they reap the fruits of your sacrifice and garner that wondrous harvest into the rotting granaries of 1914.

You must see that they have no share in the building up of that temple which the hands of youth shall erect upon the ashes of its dead in everlasting memories of youth that died to save this world from the forces of follies and crimes of complacent old age"

Oswald Mosley, 8th October 1919

COMRADE

Incorporating ACTION and UNION

Newsletter of Friends of QM



'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'

No.57

THE ULTIMATE WMD

APRIL 2004

European Union – The Third Force was the cornerstone of Sir Oswald Mosley's post-war political thinking. Strong vibrant nations coming together to act in unison as a bulwark between Russia and America. Present day reality, says *Adrian Pearce*, should determine a cautious approach to this much sought after goal.

LUNATIC ASYLUM

The hackneyed Churchillian words "We will fight them on the beaches ... We will never surrender" will have an added hollow ring on 1st May 2004, when an extra seventy three million citizens from ten more nations join the European Union. Apart from Cyprus and Malta, the former Warsaw Pact countries, Slovakia, Lithuania, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Slovenia and Poland will come blinking into the daylight with little to recommend in the way of economic strength. Whilst we must applaud the freeing of the communist yoke the pre-emptive rush into E.U. expansion will lead to enormous strains on the established nations in Western Europe. Peasant agriculture, antiquated transport, backward medicine, appalling housing conditions and a per capita income just one third of E.U. levels is a gamble of the first order. In most cases add on a shaky political structure and endemic corruption.

A SOFT TOUCH

Integration into Western Europe from such a low datum line is wrong, some form of associate membership should have been negotiated to allow these nations a breathing space to reach parity. One of the main problems to be immediately faced is immigration. The majority of E.U. countries have taken up an offered seven year ban on entry from citizens from these fledgling states. **Not Britain.** Jack Straw brushed aside this measure allowing full and free entry to the U.K. from these backward nations. At this late stage, reality is dawning that perhaps this was not such a good idea. A near covert one million pound campaign, administered by the International Organisation for Migration, turned out to be a few television adverts aimed mainly at the Roma, spreading the word of the downside of life in Britain. **Who will listen when we offer income support, housing, access to the National Health Service; already over burdened with health tourism, together with**

propaganda and its ilk is mainly for consumption by the restive natives of this land. In reality, the record on deportation is lamentable.

With over 80% of existing asylum seekers claims to political asylum turning out to be nothing more than economic migration, you would think that these false claimants would be put onto the next aeroplane home to their own country of origin. Wrong.

have David Blunkett offering home sweet home to an estimated 50,000 failed immigrants. In addition at least 130,000 who could not wait for such largesse have gone missing, disappeared without trace. Where is the machinery to deal with this scandal? Such people must be fuelling the Black Economy, subjected to cruel exploitation, low wages and always the threat of exposure. So much for the much vaunted principles of New Labour.

We have the highest number of asylum applications in the world. Nearly £2 billion is thrown at the problem every year. The announcement of failed asylum seeking Somalis and Iraqis were to be forced back to their homelands is welcome. The rate? One per day!

Now, with imminent free access to this country from ten nations a large majority no longer need to hide in cross channel lorries, walk the tunnel or cross in a



MOSLEY SPEAKS IN HIS NORTH KENSINGTON ELECTION CAMPAIGN 1959. IMMIGRATION PRESSURES COULD HAVE BEEN ADDRESSED IN A SANE AND HUMANE WAY HAD HIS CANDIDATURE BEEN A SUCCESS

any number of fringe benefits for the asking.

At the last minute the Government has woken up to the potential chaos and has started issuing one/two year benefit bans coupled with the message "work or be sent home" etc. This

DELUGE

The message is hang on in, stick around and just wait for the next government amnesty. Failed asylum seekers due for deportation benefited from the 1991-94 amnesty. It was tried again in 1998-99 and now we

rubber dingy. Just buy a ticket and turn up, legitimately. An influx of many thousands can be expected. Will they take heed of a campaign to paint Britain in a negative light? Coupled with the threat of economic sanction.

I think not.

RECORD OF A SHAMEFUL ACT

In the wake of the death of Diana, Lady Mosley we are indebted to Louise Irvine (nee Fisher) for writing this first hand account of life behind the grim walls of Holloway Prison

I had never seen Lady Mosley until I met her in Holloway Prison in 1940.

I was not imprisoned with the first batches of detainees in the May and June of 1940. I continued teaching in Birmingham. I also continued seeing various friends who were also members of B.U. There were no political activities, and I simply met them as friends. I also visited my fiancé (later my husband) who had been detained under Regulation 18b. at various prisons. First Walton Prison in Liverpool, which was terrifying to visit, then Stafford Gaol, equally awesome. **The police played cat and mouse with me, and I was once taken from the school where I taught, by two plain-clothes police officers, into Birmingham and interrogated for nearly two hours, without representation, or any charges being made.**

Arrested, I was finally under Regulation 18b and taken to Holloway Prison. For the first 2 or 3 weeks, I did not meet any B.U. members as I was first put into C Wing, which was used for a mixture of alien detainees and convicted prisoners. Eventually I was transferred to F Wing, which was entirely for 18b. prisoners, and most female members of B.U. who had been detained were here. It was here that I first met Lady M.

A NEW FRIEND

It was the end of November 1940, cold, miserable and depressing, but even so the 1hr. outdoor exercise was welcome. It consisted of walking round and round an exercise yard, surrounded by the grim prison walls. I hardly knew anyone when I was first imprisoned, as I was very much a provincial member, and none of my Birmingham friends were interned. Of course, I had met other members in London and at meetings. The first day on exercise someone said to me: "Lady Mosley is over there and would like to meet you". I moved to where she was walking and through the November's mist I saw a tall, slender figure. She was wearing a plain camel-hair coat, her hair blonde and simply cut and she was undoubtedly extremely beautiful. Quite

involuntarily the description of Helen of Troy from Tennyson's 'A Dream of Four Women' went through my mind. A daughter of the Gods divinely tall and, most divinely fair. She had already been imprisoned for 6 months leaving two very young children, one a mere baby. She looked thin and pale, but her smile lit up her face. As I came to know her, I was to find that her smile and her laughter were very much part of her. We continued to walk and she had learnt from her husband that a fine young man called Irvine who was with him in Brixton had just heard that his fiancée was in Holloway and was very angry about it. So she asked me about him, and what I did in the outside world, and how I came to be arrested.

In prison, Lady M. never demanded any special privileges. I think the privacy of her own cell was a relief to her, as she had an inner strength and very high intelligence, which helped her to accept the loneliness and horrors of prison life.



LOUISE FISHER (MIDDLE OF GROUP) STEPS ASHORE ONTO THE ISLE OF MAN DESTINED FOR THE INTERNMENT CAMP AT PORT ERIN

OUTSIDE HELP

I was amazed and appalled at the filthy and unhygienic conditions in Holloway. Completely archaic and filthy toilets and washing facilities – simply a bucket in one's cell. I don't know how she coped to begin with in her weak physical condition.

By the time I arrived in F Wing there had been some improvements made, as it was pointed out by various outside people (such as **Richard Stokes, M.P.** for Ipswich) that treatment under 18b. was not supposed to

be punitive. We were allowed to receive a restricted number of letters, read and censored by the authorities, and they were delivered by a wardress standing at the "centre". I believe in the early days some wardresses took pleasure in calling out "Mosley, cell number —", and watching her walk up for her letter. But gradually this all changed. Lady M., simply by being her actual self, and with her charm and dignity, won them over, and some of the senior officers treated her with respect and even affection.

Lady M. always behaved quite naturally, and never talked down to anyone, although her background and upbringing was so different from most of us in Holloway. She was never pretentious herself, and hated pretension in others. I sometimes felt that she would have preferred to remain in her cell with her books and reading and other interests, but she was determined to show people that we could lead civilised lives within prison walls. By this time our cells were unlocked during the daytime and we were allowed free movement on the four floors of F Wing. But we were locked up every evening at about 5.30pm. The Home Office, for humanitarian reasons,



LOUISE FISHER IN 1936

white flowers. With the thinness and palor of Holloway on her she certainly looked the part, and I think got 2nd prize.

Lady M. had never been involved in active politics in B.U. – making speeches etc. – and there was no question of her becoming the women's leader in Holloway. But she was always available to anyone, and always took an interest in any new comings and goings, and was always glad to hear of people's release, and news of anyone moved to the Isle of Man.

This confined atmosphere of prison or camp life creates a hothouse for rumours. One of Lady M's. worst times was when the rumour went round that the men-prisoners from Brixton were being sent to Canada or Australia. This was at the time of the sinking of **The Andorra Star**, a ship carrying interned aliens. Thankfully, this was only rumour and they were not despatched overseas.

NEW SKILLS

Lady M. proved herself a practical as well as intellectual person. She read a lot in English, French and German, but she also took up knitting. With great delight, she appeared one day in a two-piece, which she had knitted herself. It was a skirt and edge-to-edge jacket, rather a dull, dark grey, and knitted in an absolutely plain stitch. But looked almost haute couture on her tall slim figure. I don't think she much cared for people who sat around doing nothing.

She even gained an aptitude for cooking in Holloway, when we were allowed to do cooking of our own if we had ingredients sent in. In one of his letters, O.M. had said how awful the food was in Brixton, and Lady M. was determined to send him a hot meal cooked by herself. She gained permission, and somehow

later issued an order that women prisoners' cells were to be unlocked during air-raids.

Lady M. never hid herself away from us all, and was always willing to enter into any plans for entertainment to help life along. At Christmas time, a fancy-dress 'party' was organised, testing ingenuity in using whatever materials one could lay hands on. Lady M. came as the Bride of Lammamore. She wore a plain white sheath of a robe, and some sort of veiling, and carried a somewhat tired-looking bunch of

rigged up a very elementary haybox. Out of whatever ingredients she had managed to get she made a special casserole and it was sent to Brixton in the haybox. She was delighted when O.M. wrote to say how delicious it was. In her usual joyful manner when she saw the senior officer Miss Baxter she exclaimed: "Isn't it heavenly my husband enjoyed the food I sent him so much. But of course you know — you censored the letter". To which Miss Baxter replied: "I didn't know because although I censor your letters I can never read your husband's writing". This shows the degree of regard and affection in which she was held by most of the prison staff.

sometimes by invitation I visited her cell with a few other members, just for ordinary conversation and companionship. Heavy politics were rarely discussed, but talk ranged over books, literature, music, art, etc., and I realised what a vast knowledge and love of beauty she had.

I always had an aversion to intruding on Lady M's. private life, but over the years we kept in touch. She was a most meticulous letter writer, and never let a letter go unanswered. She was very kind in lending me books in the early post-war years, and in those days when I visited London more frequently she asked me to lunch or tea. My husband and I had



A SNATCHED PHOTOGRAPH OF THE MOSLEYS TAKEN DURING THEIR PERIOD OF HOUSE ARREST SHORTLY AFTER BEING RELEASED FROM HOLLOWAY PRISON

HOW THE WORLD LEARNT THE SAD NEWS

Lady Diana Mosley, widow of Britain's pre-war Fascist Party leader, has died in Paris. She was 93.

Tallahassee Democrat

Diana Mosley, regarded as the most beautiful of the daughters of Lord and Lady Redesdale.

The Age

An avid reader, the mother-of-four listed gardening, swimming and her extensive family as her main interests in life.

Irish Examiner

She was very, very close to Churchill. And she was friendly with Hitler as well; she was probably about the only person around who was!

Home of Sport

... A literary circle that included Lytton Strachey, Dora Carrington and Evelyn Waugh who dedicated his novel 'Vile Bodies' to her.

Associated Press

... She fell in love with the charismatic Mosley, a former Labour and Tory member of Parliament.

Washington Post

The most divine adolescent I have ever beheld: a goddess, more immaculate, more perfect, more celestial than Botticelli's *Sea-Bourne Venus*.

James Lees-Milne

Quoted in the Sydney Morning Herald

The FIA President owes a great deal to his mother as he inherited much of her intellectual brilliance and ambition.

Grand Prix

On August 2nd, a month before the outbreak of war, she had a last meeting with the German Leader, whom she and her sister referred to as 'Wolf'

A.F.N. Paris

Mosley grew up in lavish surroundings attending debutante functions and carving a name in society as one of the engaging Mitford sisters.

Ireland On-Line

Lady Mosley, who lived in colourful and controversial life, was reported to have been surrounded by friends and family at her Paris flat when she died on Monday.

Australian Broadcasting Corporation

Blonde, blue-eyed Diana was an outstanding beauty.

Kansas City Star

In the face of criticism that lasted to the end of her life, she never ceased supporting her husband.

The Plain Dealer, Cleveland



TO "FISHY" WITH BEST LOVE FROM DIANA MOSLEY 1941
A PERSONALLY ANNOTATED PHOTOGRAPH GIVEN TO LOUISE FISHER ON HER IMPENDING TRANSFER FROM HOLLOWAY PRISON TO THE ISLE OF MAN

A HARD LIFE

I was never intimate enough with her to know how much she really suffered mentally and physically, being away from her younger children, as I never heard her openly complain. Her sense of humour was enormous, but there must have been a lot of heartache underneath. She abhorred sentimentality, but had a great depth of true feeling. Her loyalty and steadfastness were unquestionable.

Sometimes she would ask me personally to join her in walking round the exercise ground, and

pressing invitations to visit Temple de la Gloire if we were motoring near Orsay, but sadly, we never achieved it.

POSTSCRIPT

Louise, together with her husband, 'Inky', went on to become founder members of Union Movement. Apart from running a very active and successful branch, they arranged numerous dinners and socials to which the Mosleys often attended. In addition, Louise founded and edited a regional political newspaper that ran for a number of years.

“Today, it is a question of uniting Europe ... This is the task of our generation ... to find a new ideological basis of European Union, so that a united Europe can play its part in a world balance of powers.”

Sir Oswald Mosley, 15th April 1939.



The Case for “Europe A Nation” **Our Europe, Mosley’s Europe – Not Theirs!**

By Robert Best

Tens of millions of people are unemployed right across the continent of Europe. Here in Great Britain, the official figure is just over one million, however everyone knows both Labour and Tory governments routinely massage the figures through useless training schemes, denying benefits, the squeezing of eligibility for ‘Jobseekers Allowance’, and persuading claimants to apply for other benefits.

The true figure of mass unemployment in Britain is nearer 4 million! In fact, there are more people living in poverty now in the 21st Century in this country, than at any time since the depression of the thirties! Industry, manufacturing and agriculture have been decimated by the ‘champagne socialists’ of New Labour, outdoing even the ‘Thatcherite Tories’! Add to this, the influx of several million Third World immigrants, economic refugees and bogus ‘asylum seekers’ to compete with the indigenous British for scarce housing and jobs, so undercutting our workers wages. Conversely, we also have the scandal of ‘fat cat’ bosses, sacking British workers by their thousands, while awarding themselves obscene pay rises and ‘out sourcing’ jobs to the low-wage countries, particularly India.

LOST OPPORTUNITIES

Our failure to join the European Single Currency in the first wave, has now cost us 3500 job losses every month since the Euro was launched. Prices in Britain are 15 per cent higher than in the Euro countries – that’s an extra £1400 for the average British household. We are already paying a high

price for our isolation with lost jobs, lost trade and lost investment. It is somewhat ironic that the ‘Euro-sceptics’ often forget that it was the Romans who first introduced the Pound, the ‘Libra Pondo’, as a very successful European Single Currency into Britain!

There is no reason why we in modern-day Europe cannot make a European Single Currency work again – **with the provision that every nation of Europe, including Britain, first is given the opportunity to vote for its adoption in a referendum.**

Two thirds of the British people voted to remain within the European Community during the National Referendum on our membership in 1975, and the vast majority of Britons continue to suggest Britain’s membership of the European Union (60%-70% in opinion poll after opinion poll). Any party whether ‘right-wing’, or ‘left-wing’ which advocates withdrawal and the negative isolation of Britain from Europe, is routinely beaten heavily at the polls. Sixty per cent of Britain’s trade is with the continent of Europe and this is set to rise even higher within the next decade, and so it is in

consequence in our own national and economic interests, to ensure that our future destiny lies firmly wedded to the Union of Europe, amongst kindred Europeans. I believe that a new European Union, Mosley’s vision of ‘Europe a Nation’, run for the benefit of the European Peoples, would be far more popular than it is today!

I say ‘Our Europe – Not Theirs’, because I am opposed to the corrupt politicians, interfering busybodies and International Financiers, who are running our great and beautiful continent, slowly but surely, dragging her down under their contemptible, parasitic weight. It is the tyrannical, bureaucratic ‘European Commission’ of failed political rejects which is the problem, NOT the directly elected European Parliament!

I do not want an American-style Global Capitalist, Free Trade, Finance-dominated ‘United States of Europe’, nor do I wish to see the ancient homelands of Europe suppressed and oppressed, as happened under the murderous alien communist creed. Neither should we return to the old obsolete narrow insular nationalism and division of Europeans against each other, which always leads to conflict and war. The division of Europe only means the vultures of high finance find our individual nations easy pickings!

VISIONS FOR THE FUTURE

Our aim should be to create a People’s Europe not a Financiers Europe! Europe a Nation not Internationalism – nor a modern ‘Tower of Babel’! A Great United Europe stretching from Britain and Ireland in the West, to the Urals, Russia and the Baltic lands of Eastern Europe, now liberated from the Soviet yolk. A Union of Europe, which at some time seeks to preserve and celebrate the diverse local and national identities, regional traditions and cultures of our vibrant European Civilisation. A Europe of One Hundred Flags against the Financiers rag of blue and yellow stars, globalism and alien values! A great new economic powerhouse, a self-contained, self-sufficient bloc of 700 million Europeans with a vast home market containing virtually all of the raw materials and foodstuffs we require, removing the present need for us to import cut-price shoddy goods from the low-wage, sweated economies of the Far East, making us independent of the chaos of world markets. **It is high time that we British stopped negatively backtracking and dragging our feet on Europe. We must decide once and for all, whether we wish to continue our present direction of continually following American policy, or whether on the other hand we engage wholeheartedly within a**

Union of Europe to help lead Europe, as a strong partner of equals. There is no half-way house, we must choose either to become the 51st state colony of the USA, or British Leadership in Europe a Nation. Successive Labour and Tory Governments have abandoned Britain's sovereignty to the Money Power of International Finance and the US Dollar of Yankee Capitalism. The only way we can regain our freedom and greatness is to build Europe a Nation, and to **withdraw from the globalist serfdom of the world trade organisation.**

The acute problem of mass Third World immigration in all European countries and the recent bullying and blackmailing of Austria shows the dire need for Mosley's 'National Party of Europe', and the urgent necessity for all National European Parties and Patriots within the European Parliament and National Governments, to UNITE in a common political campaign to oppose the influx, and to propose the humane, financially-assisted repatriation of Afro-African peoples to their lands of ancestral origin, to good jobs and homes.



MOSLEY SPEAKING AT THE FOUNDING OF UNION MOVEMENT 7th FEBRUARY 1948

The adoption of Mosley's 'Wage-Price Mechanism', the raising of similar higher wages and the lowering of prices to similar levels throughout the New Nations of Europe, will eliminate poverty, undercutting, and mass migrations within Europe. Full employment will result from the protection of British industry and farming with the employment of British workers producing British goods

in British-owned industries, for the Home and European Markets. The failed Common Fisheries Policy must be scrapped and replaced with an European Regional Fishing Policy, guaranteeing local fishing fleets exclusive access to local waters, in order to conserve our fish stocks. Government must encourage the increase of small traditional family farms and organic agriculture, producing healthy, nutritious food for the people, and labour intensive work for the unemployed, on the land. In a Mosleyite Europe, there would be: increased consumer purchasing power – a larger market, import control – a secure market, and stable priced and improved distribution – an orderly market. **Our trade motto should be: "We will buy from those who buy from us."**

Likewise, British Credit must be used to regenerate our own industries, not overseas to equip our competitors from the low-wage Asiatic countries against us: **"Save Jobs – Buy British!"**

LOOKING EAST FOR UNITY

Turning to Defence and Foreign Policy, a Government of Action in the New Britain of Tomorrow should never seek to interfere in the internal affairs of countries who are no threat to us, such as Afghanistan OR Iraq. The National Armed Forces of Europe must be ready to defend our common European homeland from any outside aggressor, together, as part of a combined European Defence Alliance of Army, Navy and Air Forces, with a European nuclear deterrent, independent of NATO. Do we really want to continue being the lap-dog of American interests? We can certainly be friends with America, but we must be independent and stand on our own two feet. Our foreign Policy should be: "We will be friends with those who are friends with us." Britain's adoption of Eire's long-standing honourable position of armed neutrality, which would have saved our youth from wholesale slaughter in European fratricidal civil war, and our realignment with Europe away from American hegemony, would go a long way to repairing our damaged relations, formerly cordial, with the Arab and Muslim World. We are much better off with Germany and France, we want no part of an insane crusade, which puts Britain on the top of the terrorists hit list! In the future, the co-operation of large political blocs of similar kindred peoples such as Europe a Nation, the Americas, and Asian,

Arabian and African Unions, will render obsolete the UN, as such units can deal directly with each other, with no fear of being outvoted. This is the best guarantor of world peace.

A UNION OF EQUALS

Mosley called for a Great Union of the Nations of Europe, just as much a Union, as the Union of England, Scotland and Wales to form the British Nation. We are no less English, Scottish, or Welsh for being members of the Union of Britain, and neither will we be any less British, French, German, or Italian, by being Citizens of Europe a Nation. The British Empire was destroyed, as a result of the suicidal brother's war between Great Britain and Germany, the tragic conflict which Oswald Mosley and the Blackshirt Movement valiantly attempted to prevent during the Thirties. The only route now left open for Britain to regain her rightful place as a world power, is to join wholeheartedly and enthusiastically with a New Union of Europe, led by real Europeans, men and women of ability and talent, in a Greater Europe.

and Celt, Bavarian, Norman and Breton, Lombard and Roman, Nordic, Mediterranean, Alpine, Latin and Slavic.

There is nothing wrong with being patriotic and loyal to your own country, that is only natural and right, what I am saying as a firm believer in Mosley's National European creed is that we, as kindred and related fellow Europeans of whatever nationality should be striving to **extend our patriotism** to embrace our common and shared **European identity, culture and civilisation.**

European Union can solve the problem of Northern Ireland, Tyrol and the Basque country when former opponents unite as Europeans, in **solidarity, progress and union.** Significantly, many Croatsians and Serbians now look to the European Union, to heal the wounds of war-torn former Yugoslavia. **All we have to do to avert decline and disaster is to UNITE! The flame of rebirth of Mosley's great National European 'vision splendid', must be reborn before it is too late. We can build the New**



ACCLAMATION! A CROWDED AUDIENCE CHEER THE LEADER AS HE OUTLINES HIS POLICY FOR A UNITED EUROPE

Mosley advocated a common government for Europe, elected directly by a free vote of all the peoples, nations and regions of our continent, responsible for economic policy, defence, foreign policy, finance and scientific development. The national parliaments in each member country would have full power over all social and cultural problems. I have no desire to lose, or suppress regional identities or local patriotisms, or national ones. In the New Europe we need all Europeans; Saxon

Europe if only we truly believe in ourselves, and in the Faith our Leader gave us – 'Europe a Nation', which springs from deep within the European Soul, determined to build a Greater Britain in a Greater Europe, a future civilisation of progress, social justice and high endeavour.

COMRADE

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KATYN WOOD. A deliberate and cynical act of cold blooded murder conceived by Stalin and his lifetime henchman Lavrenti Pavlovich Beria to eliminate the officer class of the Polish army. Despite the strenuous efforts of Western and Eastern governments to hush up the facts, the execution of over 15,000 Polish officers in April 1940 has been publicly acknowledged sixty years later by the British Government as a Soviet inspired crime.

By Gregory Maitland.

MURDER IN THE FOREST

In the post-war years, with Poland still under the yoke of communism, the London based Polish government in exile, organised rallies calling for the overthrow of the Russian controlled puppet government of Wladyslaw Gomulka. Often a contingent of Union Movement members would join these marches for freedom and add their voice for an investigation into the atrocity committed in a wood near Smolensk.

The Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact signed on 23rd August 1939 condemned Poland by secret protocol to annexation.



MOLOTOV SIGNS THE PACT. RIBBENTROP AND STALIN LOOK ON

On the 17th September 1939 the Red Army invaded Eastern Poland. Over 240,000 Polish soldiers and reservists were taken into detention. This was followed by widespread arrests of Polish citizens, with over one million being deported to labour camps in Siberia, Kazakhstan and the far Eastern regions.

At the outbreak of the Russo-German war in June 1941 an amnesty was signed to create a Polish army to fight along side the Soviets. General Wladyslaw Anders the appointed Commander in Chief repeatedly questioned the whereabouts of thousands of missing officers last heard of in Kozielsk, Ostashkov and Starobielsk prisoner of war camps. In early 1940, the Soviets failure to give satisfactory answers beset every aspect of Polish-Soviet relations. Finally, in the spring of 1942, General Anders led his depleted troops into the Middle-East theatre of war making up the Second Polish Corps in conjunction with the allied forces.

"Too many people are interesting themselves in Polish politics"

Vyacheslav Mikhailovich Molotov

The question remained what had become of over 15,000 missing Polish Army officers?

On the 13th April 1943 the Germans announced the discovery of a mass grave at Katyn Wood near Smolensk. It contained the remains of over 4000 Polish military personnel hands bound, sawdust in their mouths and a single bullet hole in the back of the head. Classic N.K.V.D. execution technique. The German assertion that this was a Soviet inspired atrocity was immediately rejected by the British Government. In the days of 'Uncle Joe' and 'Winnie' the discovery had the potential of causing a rift between allies.

"This is no time for quarrels and charges"

Winston Churchill



POLISH PRISONERS OF WAR AWAIT THEIR FATE

German calls for the International Red Cross to investigate were refused. The Germans then set up their own International Commission made of distinguished forensic experts including the eminent Professor Francois Naville from neutral Switzerland. This unanimously reported that the executions could not have taken place later than the spring of 1940, which proved the Russians, who occupied that area at that time, must have been guilty.

"His Majesty's Government have no wish to attribute blame for these events to anyone except the common enemy"

Anthony Eden

When the tide of war changed with the Soviets retaking Katyn, a Russian inspired investigation reported that the crime was committed in 1941 when the Germans had control. The Western governments, including Britain remained silent.



FORENSIC EXPERTS EXAMINING DOCUMENTS TAKEN FROM THE DEAD

At the Nuremberg War Crime trials, the Russian prosecutor tried to pin the blame onto Herman Goering, whose council fought a strong defence making the case fall away. No mention of Katyn was to be found in the final judgement. Asked by the German defence who was responsible for Katyn, Justice Lawrence, President of the court retorted "I am not here to answer questions of that kind" but irrefutable evidence was available to the court.

"I am absolutely convinced the Russians did not do it"

Franklin Delano Roosevelt

The Wehrmacht War Crimes Bureau was established on 4th September 1939. It was a purely investigative body with no power to indict. Many members were jurists, independent of the ruling elite. The remit was to investigate and report findings for possible action in the post-war years of Pax Germanica. The Bureau was first alerted on the 2nd August 1941 when a Russian P.O.W. claimed to know that "All Polish officers taken prisoner by the Soviets had been executed" No

further action could be taken as no graves had been found.

"If they are dead, nothing you can do will bring them back"

Winston Churchill

When Katyn was discovered in April 1943 the Bureau interviewed a local forester, Parfeon Kisseljeff, who confirmed four trucks arrived every day for five weeks "from my home I could hear the shooting and human cries" A railway switchman, Matwie Sacharow, watched freight trains disgorging prisoners wearing Polish uniforms 'this continued for 28 days'. Forensic medical evidence together with documents found on the bodies proved that the executions were in March and April 1940. After the Soviet fiasco at Nuremberg little more was said until 1950 the tenth anniversary of the massacre.

General Anders, by now a member of the Polish Government in exile called for justice. In 1952, the United States Congress examined the facts and placed the blame on the Russians.

"The issue should be avoided"

Winston Churchill

In 1956, the Hungarian uprising acted as a catalyst to raise the issue but no further action was taken. The onset of the Cold War could have seen the British Government take a more decisive roll. It did nothing.



STALIN'S SIGNATURE OF DEATH



THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS ARE SHOWN THE FRESHLY OPENED GRAVES AT KATYN

In 1971 books, newspaper articles and a television programme all demanded answers. The British Government was on the ropes. What to do? Enter the Secretary of States Historical adviser Dr Rohan D'Olier Butler. His review printed for internal circulation concluded "We see no advantage in breaking the silence that has been presented for nearly 30 years on the Katyn massacre" (!). Stalemate brought forth the Katyn Committee who proposed the erection of a twenty foot high stone obelisk in London's Cromwell Road. The response from an appeal for funds underlined the publics' great strength of feeling on the matter. Still the Government stood firm "(theirs) no reason why H.M.G. should authorise a monument to the victims of Katyn rather than those of any other atrocity which occurred in a foreign country during the war". A second proposal to site the memorial in St Lukes Gardens, Chelsea included the date 1940 (which would have indicted the Russians) brought further H.M.G. response "(Its) a political activity damaging to our relations (with the USSR) could the committee see their way to

reconsider the whole project". The church came to the rescue "It was not in keeping with the principles of reconciliation". A new Labour administration with Harold Wilson saw no change in policy. Finally Kensington and Chelsea Borough Council offered a site in Gunnersbury Park cemetery.

"I am not at all sure however that any useful purpose would be served by re-opening such old wounds as the Cattin (!) massacre"

House of Commons M.P. (anon)



LAVRENTI BERIA

Against a background of protests from the Russian and Polish Governments, the Obelisk was unveiled on 18th September 1976. Under the threat of Court Marshall no uniformed serving officers of the British Army were allowed to attend. No political representative was present. The U.S. Government was officially represented.. Still the calls to investigate responsibility for the massacre were made to no avail. In 1979 with the change of British Government the Band of the Queens Royal Irish Hussars played at the annual commemoration. A junior minister, Geoffrey Pattie attended, but the 1980s saw dwindling parliamentary interest in Katyn.

"Is it not about time that justice and the English Church stopped bending the knee to Bolshevism?"

Louis FitzGibbon

In the wake of Solidarity and Glasnost, the Russian line started to change. On The 29th February 1989, Radio Moscow reported that the Polish Red Cross had evidence that the massacre could have taken place in early 1940. If so "there could be only one

perpetrator, the N.K.V.D." Meanwhile the British Governments Mr Waldegrave "agreed to maintain the current line on Katyn". By 13th April 1990, the game was up. On a State visit to Russia, President Jaruzelski of Poland was presented with documents by President Gorbachev. Here was

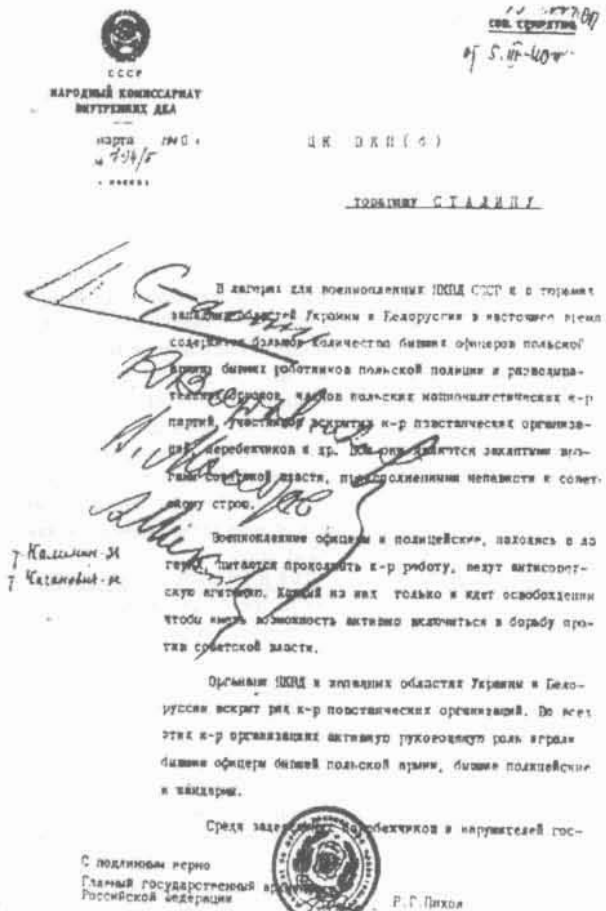
"Unfortunately I see no hope of anyone being able ... to bring the perpetrators to justice"

Enoch Powell

final proof of one of the heinous crimes and disgraceful cover-ups in history being exposed. In a statement by the Soviet news agency, TASS said, "The archive material as a whole, leads to the conclusion that responsibility for the crimes of Katyn belong to Beria, Merkulov and their assistants. The Soviet side expresses deep regret over the Katyn tragedy and declares that it is one of the most serious crimes of Stalinism". It was time to run for cover.

"It was decided by the victorious Governments concerned that the issue should be avoided"

Winston Churchill



BERIA'S LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION TO LIQUIDATE THE POLISH OFFICERS. STALIN'S SIGNATURE AGREEING TO MASS MURDER IN UNDERLINED

Continued on page nine

HOW THE BUF CAME TO GEORDIELAND

We conclude Blackshirt and D Day paratrooper Robert Richard's memories of Newcastle Branch. He recalls the fateful year of 1939. The lead up to war and his own call up to fight in the 'Brothers War'

1939. The early weeks of what was to be a fateful year in British history. The weather was grim but the newspaper reports at that time were becoming more and more grave.

The Government revealed plans to appoint 12 Civil Defence Commissioners – "men of national standing ... capable of undertaking great responsibilities" – with plenary powers to organise civil defence in London and the provinces should these regions be cut off by war operations.

The Home Office announced the issue of free air raid shelters to thousands of householders in London and other potential target cities. Two people without skill or experience, it was reported, could erect the shelters.

The Territorial Army was to be doubled. Orders for weapon factories, more Army camps, vast supplies of uniforms and military footwear were announced.

The prospect of a 'snap' General Election for Peace had been no more than wishful thinking! Britain was sliding into war!

COUNTER MEASURES

With the Branch located now in a new address and being only a few minutes walking distance from the regular City-centre sales-pitches, whenever the weather relented, although still penetratingly cold, at least one pitch would be manned. The individual would do approximately half an hour on duty before being brought back indoors to be 'thawed-out'. By employing an overlapping system there was always at least two personnel on duty. Most would be out again within the hour; a few of the hardier after no more than a hot beverage turned-out for another spell. There was dedication; toughness and courage. There was now a deep unspoken feeling that this could be: "The last stand for Peace".

The Branch was fortunate in having an adequate supply of coal donated regularly, enabling a roaring fire to be kept going, also thanks to an anonymous group of 'small-shopkeepers' there was a continuous supply of tea, coffee, milk, sugar and tinned soups, always on-hand.



WITH NEWSPAPERS, RADIO AND TELEVISION CLOSED TO THE BRITISH UNION, A RASH OF WHITEWASH SLOGANS APPEARED ALL OVER THE COUNTRY

The enforced restriction on outdoor duty-time meant that much time was spent around the 'roaring-fire' by personnel waiting their turn to 'have-a-go'. Whenever the 'bulletin-news-speak' were mentioned views and comments were exchanged with varying degrees of feeling, some very 'heated' – matching that of the fire! This period is vividly remembered, especially the interruptions when a half-dozen Blackshirts would come in, feet stamping, hands rubbing, and being greeted: "Well done!" – "What's it like?": the memory of some of the replies are unforgettable e.g. "It's cold enough to freeze the proverbials"; "Sold a couple" (said with enthusiasm as though it was two dozen!) and not least of all: "Had someone buy a copy saying: 'if you're prepared to stand out on this weather it must be worth reading' – "Good Luck". The spirit of those 'Geordie' Blackshirts and their belief in Oswald Mosley was strong and indomitable – come what may!

OVERTAKEN BY EVENTS

Come the 'Ides of March' and street-sales become less of a battle with the elements.

March 31st: "Britain and France pledge to defend Poland against attack"

April 5th: Government announces plans for the immediate evacuation of 2.5 million children should hostilities begin. The Health Minister reveals that over a quarter of a million home air raid shelters had

already been delivered and 80,000 were being made weekly. "Action" street-sales continued each weekend, but with decreasing number of personnel being available due to: TA training; factories and shipyards on government contracts requiring overtime, night-shift, and weekend working. The quagmire of 'war' was engulfing more and more of Mosley's British Union campaigners.

April 26th: The Government announced its intention to introduce 'Conscription'.

Mr Clement Attlee, Opposition Leader, warns the House of Commons: 'it is very dangerous to give generals all they want'

Aneruin Bevan declared "We have lost, Hitler has won!"

The Prime Minister, Neville Chamberlain ("Peace in our time" just 100 days previously!) said: "Conscription is a departure from our cherished traditions".

May 19th: The Trades Union Congress decided not to oppose conscription plans.

May 26th: The Military Training (conscription) Bill becomes law.

BLACK PROPAGANDA

It is of interest to recollect that by mid-May most of the graphic slogans which had 'blossomed' in November '38 had been effectively obliterated with two exceptions. In fact, those surviving slogans appeared to have been freshened and a swastika symbol added. The previously mentioned 'FBN unit'

took suitable steps to counter the problem. Within a few days, those two remaining slogans had been removed. Whatever may be thought about this form of publicity there was evidence that it breached the 'wall-of-silence' and gained attention; not least of all was a Communist-inspired whispering campaign in the numerous ordnance factories and shipyards working on government re-armament contracts throughout Tyneside: "Mosley peace means disarmament!"; "Mosley Peace means unemployment!"; "Mosley peace means victory for Hitler". This campaign evaporated overnight when on 23rd August 1939, Germany and Russia signed a "Non-aggression Pact". That weekend "Action" was a sell-out.

The Tyneside AA defence units were again engaged for the whole of June in the nation-wide TA exercise "Couverture".

Consequently "Action" street sales-teams were very depleted, however, the handful of members available for duty managed to keep the sales-pitch on the corner of Northumberland Street/Blacket Street manned every weekend.

Special efforts were made to get more of the 'associate' membership and other 'supporters' (including the Small Shopkeepers Group) who, for various reasons were unable to participate openly in public, to purchase extra copies of "Action" for 'under-cover' distribution. The response to this call was very heartening.



With the return of 'Z' section to partial strength at the beginning of July, efforts were made to organise a publicity programme. However, it was clear that other than street sales-teams at weekends anything further would be 'spasmodic' rather than 'organised'.

A FINAL PUSH

When it became known that OM was to hold a great 'Rally for

BRITONS-FIGHT-FOR-BRITAIN-ONLY

Peace' in Earls Court, London, on the 16th July, efforts were made to ensure that the Tyneside membership were made aware that a 'Geordie' contingent would be attending. The Exhibition Hall in which OM would speak, was bigger than both 'Olympia' or the 'Royal Albert Hall' venues!

The Leader of the British Union Movement, Sir Oswald Mosley, spoke for one and a half hours, interrupted only from time-to-time by the demonstrative enthusiasm and thunderous applause with which this great audience received and approved many of his declarations for a "Peace with Honour".

The audience on the night was estimated as numbering 30,000. The largest indoor political meeting ever held in the world. This vast public gathering in Britain's capital was completely ignored by the British media.

Much attention was given to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir John Simon's announcement: July 13th, that in addition to the April Budget of £1.3b. to be spent on Britain's re-armament, another £0.5b was now to be borrowed. (The sources of this borrowing were 'international' and differed fundamentally from that advocated five years previously by OM, in July, 1934, when he called for a National Defence Loan).

July 18th: The Secretary of State for War, Mr. L. Hore-Belisha, was reported as saying: "Guns and searchlights are spread in a wide chequer-board over the land, by lonely copses, along

farm buildings, in the hills, in the Fen country, keeping an increasing watch ... day and night".

During the return railway journey to the Tyneside, from the tremendous London "Rally", the discussion among the 'Geordie' contingent was once again on a high-note of 'hope and expectancy' surely it was thought, such a demonstration could not be ignored? In the days that followed, we were once again made to realise the significance of OM's message in "Tomorrow We Live":

"... So the money power again in the name of a Free Press can serve to the people not only the opinions but also the "news" which serves the interests of the money power. Not only are our "free" British denied any meaning to the vote in the shape of ever getting what they want, but they are also denied even the small privilege of learning the truth. For power and propaganda alike are in the hands of a force whose interests conflict with the interests of the people and is careful that they should not even learn the truth".

In addition to the "Action" street sales-teams operating in the City centre each weekend, an outdoor meeting was held on five consecutive Tuesday evenings: July 25th, August 1st, 8th, 15th and 22nd, on the corner of Raby Street and Shields Road, Whilst this location was not a usual political meeting site it was in the heart of a suburban shopping area which had experienced many years of unemployment and poverty. The

public interest grew from virtually nil at the 1st meeting (apart from the momentary curiosity-pause of a few shoppers), to, at the 2nd and 3rd meetings, a small audience (12/15) gathered and listened rather longer, before some of them resumed shopping. By the 4th and 5th the speaker arrived to find about a dozen people waiting; when the meetings closed (about 45 minutes) the audiences were numbering between 30/40. Although invited, no questions were ever asked.

It was noticed that when the meetings had concluded many of the men folk quickly retired to the nearby 'pub', the same 'pub' from where the speaker had borrowed the empty bottled-beer crate to use as a rostrum. Upon returning the borrowed crate the speaker invariably lingered to partake of a 'noggin-of-ale'; after the fifth meeting he was surprised to find a 'drink' set-up and awaiting him! (The Speaker was never able to find out whom to thank!). It was in these interludes in the 'pub' when the comments were made and questions would be asked: "War? - It's unlikely!"; "We are too strong now for Hitler!"; "If we go to war do you think we shall lose?"; "Don't worry! we've all got air-raid shelters and gas-masks!"; It was clearly 'in-the-air', albeit apprehensive, that Britain would have to go to a 'justifiable' war. These men were not 'politically-minded' nor indeed 'red', they're were what one would describe as the: 'man-in-the-street', ready to do a hard day's work, look after his family,

and enjoy a social 'pinta'. It was equally clear that the media in its role of mind-bending had done a very thorough job.

CALL UP

Returning to Croft Street HQ after the outdoor meeting on Tuesday evening, 22nd August, it was learned that one of our 'Geordie' Blackshirts had received mobilisation orders. Rumours were rife that other known TA volunteers (not members) were being 'called-to-the-colours'. There was a general feeling among those present that: "This was it - WAR".

An impromptu meeting of those Branch members present was held by the District Leader: 'If this was the start of a general mobilisation of the armed services it would mean that more than half of the active Branch membership would go, including himself, therefore his successor needed to be earmarked - local Leadership must continue'. If it was to be 'war' would it be possible to maintain the City-centre premises?; it was suggested that should there be a "declaration of war" the Movement would be proscribed, our HQ raided, if not by Special Branch, then possibly by anti-fascist thugs! The meeting ended after midnight.

The district Leader, found his 'call-up' telegram awaiting him at lunch time, Friday 25th August 1939. At 6pm that evening in the Branch HQ he handed-over the brief-case containing essential Branch records to his deputy, Colin Ferry, and made his way to his military report centre, so ends these 'Geordie' Blackshirt recollections.

"THE SPIRIT LIVES"

The final and most telling quote on the subject comes from Yakov Dzhugashvili. The P.O.W. son of Joseph Stalin. When confronted by the news of Katyn his comment was "Those were intelligentsia, the most dangerous element to us". Troubled and shamed by these revelations, he committed suicide a few days later by throwing himself onto the electrified perimeter fence of his P.O.W. camp.

"We have in fact perforce used the good name of England like the murderers used the little conifers to cover up a massacre"

Sir Owen O'Malley, Ambassador to the Sikorski Government, 24th May 1943.

historian to review the existing history.

This time it was to be published. In 2003, *Katyn: British Reactions to the Katyn Massacre 1943-2003* emerged. Introducing it, the Minister for Europe, Denis MacShane said "The refusal of successive British Governments to charge the USSR with responsibility for Katyn angered many in this country and beyond who wished to see justice done".

"The facts were as claimed by the Germans"

Major Van Vliet (U.S. Army)

With the spectacle of old soldiers of numerous nations being hounded through the courts for so called 'war crimes' why has no one ever been charged for the Katyn atrocities. Why no action for late but honourable justice?

The Crime of Katyn, for which no one has ever been brought to trial, gives enormous insight into the true workings of Western democracies who tote the flag of freedom as the mainstay of their being.

Murder in the Forest

Continued from page seven



THE KATYN MEMORIAL IN GUNNERSBURY PARK

"There are always plenty of advocates for doing nothing. People who see virtue in the negative and danger in the positive"

Louis FitzGibbon

"Britain has no standing in this issue"

H.M.G.

The secretary of State, Douglas Hurd said "We have learned that we should be aware about separating our need to deal with tyrants from our need to avoid offence to them". Further culpability emerged with the unearthing of two other mass graves containing thousands of Polish officers at Starobielsk and Ostashkov. In 1992, Boris Yeltsin sent Lech Walensa a copy of a Politburo document dated 5th March 1940 authorising the shooting of 14,700 Polish Officers signed by both Stalin and Beria. In 2000, a letter to the Secretary of State, Robin Cook, raised the reply "I personally have never doubted that Stalin was responsible for the Katyn massacre" he conceded "Previous administrations could have been more candid earlier about the Soviet guilt" He then instructed the F.C.O.

BOOK REVIEWS



On September 4th 1939, as the newly-arrived William Joyce was looking for a toe-hold in the Nazi

propaganda service in Berlin, two British airmen of No 9 Squadron were killed over the Kiel Canal while attacking the German fleet. George Brooking and Kenneth Day were the first British military fatalities of the Second World War, both former Blackshirts, members of Oswald Mosley's British Union.

Whether they ever heard Joyce speak at public meetings until his expulsion from British Union in early 1937, is not recorded, but millions of their fellow countrymen were to know Joyce's voice before the war was over.

Few photographs of Joyce survive, the two most familiar showing the future Lord Haw-Haw in Blackshirt uniform. So although Joyce had been thrown out some two and a half years before his defection to Germany, something of the stigma of his treachery attached itself to the movement.

This despite the fact that on the outbreak of war Mosley instructed every member to refrain from anything that might assist the enemy, and that in the event of a threat to our island every man and woman in his ranks would fight the invader.

And all this in the face of the exemplary military service of thousands of BU members, symbolised in the sacrifice of George Brooking and Kenneth Day, and in the names of the many Blackshirts fallen inscribed on the Roll of Honour published issue by issue in *Comrade*.

In "Right or Wrong" (1961) Mosley had this to say about Joyce: "I have always condemned and still strongly condemn the very few men who left Britain in order to aid the enemy."

As the historian Andrew Roberts has written, "it is unlikely that Mosley's Blackshirts – leading members of whom were interned in late May 1940 – would have provided a fifth column: indeed many former Blackshirts served Britain with distinction in the war."

For the reality is that while BU opposed the war on the grounds

that what was unnecessary and avoidable was also decidedly not in Britain's interest – indeed very much to her detriment – Blackshirts joined the colours in the spirit of "My Country Right or Wrong." Joyce of course took another and contrary route.

So what was William Joyce's country? Here was an Irishman born in New York, brought home to Galway aged four and raised a Catholic-educated Protestant, a boy cohort of the Black and Tans (whose activities Mosley famously denounced in the Commons), a British patriot whose nationalist zeal unsettled or amused instinctively reticent Englishmen. And finally a naturalised German who referred to his wartime as "Homeland", yet on crossing the Channel in captivity could scribble, with evident sincerity, "God Bless Old England on the lea."

"A Quare Fellow" as the Irish might say, and in a new and what will surely prove the definitive biography of Joyce, Mary Kenny, distinguished Irish journalist and writer, explores the complex and sometimes incongruous well-springs of his psyche.

This is an impressive work and in many ways a brave one. As might be expected it throws up new insights into the essential Irishness of Joyce and the contrariness of his character. She condemns but not without attempts at understanding. Overall British Union is given a very fair hearing.

Noting the element of "idealism and of egalitarianism" in what might now be called British Union's mission statement, she concludes, "it all sounds perfectly harmless, even worthy." The movement "offered a 'band of brothers' ambience which was attractive to many young men" – while noting that 30 per cent of active Blackshirts were female. "Many women claimed that in the BUF they had an outlet of equality and opportunity not available in conventional political parties." Within its ranks, working-class Irish Catholics worked amicably with Ulster Orangemen.

She quotes ex-Blackshirt and former Labour MP John Beckett: "I found in the BUF far more sincere and earnest socialist convictions than I had seen in the Labour Party for the past ten years." She cites Beckett's estimate that 20 per cent of BU membership were mainly conservative in outlook, "but the

great majority were either converted socialists or young people who certainly ten years before would have found their way into the socialist movement." British Union, notes Ms Kenny, "would attract many more people than the Communist Party, although the Communists were more influential, and indeed, paradoxically, more upper class in their composition." For writing such things Mary Kenny will have risked and no doubt drawn the animus of the familiar and traditional enemies of truth.

Joyce joined British Union in 1933 (he had earlier been a member of the Conservative Party, entertaining a hope of becoming Parliamentary candidate for Chelsea). His trademark facial scar was the result of a knife attack sustained while stewarding a Conservative public meeting. Joyce claimed the assailant was a Jewish Communist, and an obsessive loathing of Jews and Jewish influence was to mark the rest of his life. Fearless, energetic, highly intelligent, it was not surprising he made his mark in the turbulence of the early BU; nowhere more than on the public platform.

Joyce was regarded as one of the star Blackshirt speakers, though reading extracts from some of his speeches it is hard to see why. His stock in trade seems to have been invective, sustained in duration and style by a disinclination to employ one word of abuse where three or more would suffice.

That fine Blackshirt Dick Bellamy recalled taking an acquaintance to a Joyce meeting in Leeds to hear how BU would save the woollen industry. What he heard instead was a diatribe against the Jews, with the result that this potential recruit left in disgust. It is a story repeated over and again.

The Jewish issue was very real. British Union stood against Communism and finance capitalism, and Jews were prominent in each. Jewish interests were also agitating for confrontation with Nazi Germany, while individual Jews were conspicuous among those convicted of assaults on Blackshirts.

Mary Kenny quotes journalist and broadcaster Derek Jameson as saying "it was almost de rigueur for young Jews to be communists in working-class London life in the 1930s." In his biography Jameson also said in

the late-1940s he was almost the only non-Jewish Communist in East London.

But overall Joyce was not content with putting all this into the wider political perspective. When he did, dismounting for a moment from his hobby horse, he would often win over an audience whether of workers, academics, university students, or the middle classes. He had a fine brain – Maxwell Knight's early observations that along with a "Celtic volatility" Joyce's "mental balance is not equal to his intellectual capacity" seems to hit the nail on the head – a phenomenal memory and a gift for languages. He was also a pronounced polymath with a range extending from literature to the sciences.

He might have become an academic, and in 1928 tried his hand at the diplomatic service, but was repulsed. "Had he been an upper-class English communist, rather than a déclassé Fascist, and Irish to boot," says Miss Kenny in a shrewd aside, "it is probable that his chances of advancing in the Foreign Office might have been much better." Clearly he had a rare and compelling platform quality, a "presence" and vocal authority which Mary Kenny says later established him as an exceptionally gifted if notorious broadcaster.

But by early 1937, Joyce's shortcomings were causing increasing misgivings in the ranks and hierarchy of BU. His Jewish obsession and its consequences seem to have been the main issue, but there were personality factors too. He was not universally popular. Many, including Mosley, thought him excessively vain (a trait sometimes attributed, but by no means exclusively so, to men of small stature); others were put off by a sarcastic manner. Yet Joyce had winning ways too – a wry humour for example – and among a close circle of family and supporters aroused intense loyalty even love, to the very end.

When a sudden financial crisis caused Mosley to drastically prune headquarters staff, Joyce was one of those to go, and shortly after this he was expelled. Mosley – "The Bleeder" – became an even more pointed object of his lashing tongue. In a squalid review in the *Telegraph*, Max Hastings suggested the Mosleys' thought Joyce "too common." Since Hastings' snobbery and social pretensions

are a byword in Canary Wharf – a case of more airs than graces – this would seem to reflect his own rather than Mosleys' attitude in such matters.

At any rate for the next two and a half years Joyce ran a "National Socialist League", a miserable little affair that ended up with a rump of 40 members and its leader, accompanied by his second wife Margaret, waiting on a platform of Victoria Station for a boat to Germany and the Nazi propaganda service.

Enter William Joyce: "Lord Haw-Haw." Here again Joyce was to suffer from a personality disorder, for whatever description might be put to his voice, it was certainly not that of a braying member of the English upper-class (the renegade broadcaster who inspired this term was almost certainly Norman Baillie-Stewart). Such distinctions meant little in wartime however, and Joyce – who actually loathed the British upper-class – was stuck with a title that has entered the book of infamy.

Joyce proved to be a highly effective broadcaster. His British audience was of a size worrying the government – six out of ten tuned in to him – and by no means uniformly hostile. To some he seemed to be standing up for the working people against the rich and high-placed. Aside from the sneering content, Mary Kenny says some of his scripts "reveal a radical critique of British society, elucidating themes which became almost accepted wisdom after the Second World War." Contrary to legend, there is no evidence that he referred to slow-running church clocks.

But well before 1945, Joyce knew the clock was running out for him and with his sardonic humour, seems to have contemplated the grizzly manner of his end. But what he returned to in Britain was not justice. Poetic justice perhaps, but not justice as symbolised in the figure surmounting the Old Bailey.

It is now a matter of almost universal recognition that his conviction for treason was cooked up. Whatever emotion might have suggested, in point of law Joyce was not a British traitor for the very obvious fact that he was not a British subject. The trial judge, Mr Justice Tucker, moreover had described Joyce in open court three years earlier as a "traitor", a point should have disqualified him, while all the while Joyce's defence team were working unaware that the security service

was opening every item of correspondence and passing the contents to the prosecution.

No one worked harder for an acquittal than his younger brother Quinton, an ex-Blackshirt interned for three and a half years for no other reason than that he was Joyce's brother. A warm, loving, unassuming figure, Quinton in many ways is the hero of this grim story; his devotion to his doomed brother, like that of all the Joyce clan, absolute to the end.

Strikingly popular with the Wandsworth prison staff, liked and respected by his defence team, Joyce met his approaching death with a courage, serenity and buoyant good humour that commands admiration. As Mary Kenny concludes: "William Joyce did nearly everything wrong in his life, and certainly had some dreadful views", but when the curtain fell on that cold January morning in 1946, it can be said that nothing so became him as the manner of his going.

Paul Collins

Germany Calling: a personal biography of William Joyce 'Lord Haw-Haw' by Mary Kenny New Island Books (Dublin) ISBN: 1-902602-78-1 £17.99



In the wake of Diana Mosley's death, journalists have gleefully filled acres of newsprint re-

telling stories from one of the most unique lives of the twentieth century. "Lethal charm", "An intolerable woman", "More dangerous than Sir Oswald", "Intellectually undernourished" are just some of the cheap jibes referring to one no longer able to reply or sue. Equally applicable might be "Terminally honest", "Fearsomely truthful", "One who never compromised a friendship to suit a passing fashion" together with that most important of virtues "Loyalty".

To help these tales from the cuttings files or with some chance encounter with her, an authorised biography has been published, Anne De Courcy, a distinguished writer and biographer approached Diana Mosley in the 1990s with a proposal. In return for access to private papers and the willingness of friends and relatives to be interviewed, the book would carry an embargo until the death of Diana Mosley.

This was accepted.

Hundreds of hours of taped interviews ensued. What of the result? The well-worn stories of childhood and early marriage are referred to with little revelatory exposure. The fateful meeting with Sir Oswald, life in the thirties and the later prison years form the core of the book. This is valuable information for anyone attempting to evaluate a life. An overall feeling of a life in limbo is engendered, together with the failure to show the decided flowering of an English Rose.

The last half-century saw Diana striking out in some amazing directions. The heavy involvement in founding a publishing house, becoming a successful author, editorship of a monthly magazine that ran for six years. During all this time she gave unfailing support to her husband in his political endeavours to bring about the Union of Europe.



A welcome reprint of a well-received book complete with some updating of the text.

(Lady Mosley worked on revising the manuscript during the early summer of '03)

As friends of the Windsors from pre-war days Diana Mosley was in an excellent position to bring fresh insight

In a perceptive review of Anne de Courcy's book, Deborah Devonshire, her sister, knowingly touches on the books shortcomings. The natural humour, A brilliant intellect, Lack of guile, Generosity of spirit together with "A veil of serenity that saw her through the most testing of episodes". Continuing, she sagely states; "A woman who combined all these attributes is a ready-made Aunt Sally, because they are beyond the grasp of the trendy, who have never met them".

Here was a person who knew nearly all the main players of the twentieth century and who had the courage and steadfastness not to alter her belief in the passing fashions of political correctness. An inspiration for those who follow.

Adrian Pearce

DIANA MOSLEY by Anne de Courcy, Chatto and Windus ISBN: 1-8561-9242-3 £20.00

to the much told Wallis Simpson story.

When the Windsors settled at the Moulin de la Tuilerie in the early 1950s they became neighbours of the Mosleys who lived just five miles away and regularly visited each other.

The book is a personal tribute to that enduring friendship and an untrammelled and honest account of an extraordinary life.

THE DUCHESS OF WINDSOR

By Diana Mosley
Gibson Square Books
ISBN: 1903933404
Price: £9.99

Dear Sir,

Is Anne de Courcy always historically correct?

The author shows no real understanding of Sir Oswald's character and always emphasises and quotes the worst description of him. She quotes the arrogance, flashing demonic eyes, that he could work himself into tears by his own oratory, lack of sincerity and only emotion in his speeches – no real content, which we know is not true.

I know this is not a biography of Sir Oswald but if Anne de Courcy has this innate misconception of his character how can she fully understand Diana's inner most feelings and ideals? I gave the author an account of the fancy dress competition in Holloway 1941. I said that Lady M. had looked stunning as the tragic "Bride of Lammamore". Simply wearing a plain white sheath, holding a wilting spray of flowers and being pale and thin because of her confinement to Holloway. This is misquoted, saying that one of the detainees had taken this part, dismissing Fay Taylour (who was also mentioned) as a motorcyclist, when it was a well-know fact that she had been a famous pre-war motor racing driver, she also does not deserve having her name misspelt. In addition, we learn that Union Movement was founded in 1958!

This was sloppy research and one wonders if there are other silly mistakes in her work. However, throughout her biography she does portray ungrudgingly Diana Mosley's complete honesty and faithfulness to what she believed in.

Yours faithfully,
Louise Irvine.

British Union ROLL OF HONOUR 1939 1945

"What though we ourselves are
smitten,
This, our faith can never die!"

AITKEN, Sq/L Lionel: RAF 59
Sqd shot down bombing German
convoy off Dunkirk, lies in
Dunkirk Town Cemetery: BUF
'I' Squad, Off I/C Black House
HNQ 1935, brother of Andrew
BUF killed RAF 1937 and
Marjorie, BUF Women's
D/Organiser: 7 June 1941

AUSTIN, Sgt. W.G. 'Bill': 1ST
Bn KRRC: killed in action
Tunis, lies in Medjaze-el-Bab
War Cemetery, Tunis: Liverpool
British Union: 10 May 1943

AYRES, Pte. Francis
'Nipper': 6th Bn Green Howards,
killed in action near Dunkirk, lies
in Oye-Plage Communal
Cemetery, France: Limehouse
British Union: At 20. 25 May
1940

BREWER, Cpl. A.A.J.: 2nd Bn
Black Watch: Dorset British
Union: killed in action Burma.
Name inscribed on Rangoon
Memorial 5 April 1944

BROOKER, Gnr. C.G.: 90 Field
Regt RA after 18B British
Political Prisoner 1940-42:
Exeter Br British Unions: died on
P.O.W long march. Remembered
on Cassino Memorial, Italy: 8
March 1945

CHAMBERS, Donald: joined
RAF first day WW2, then British
Political Prisoner, then Army
from which discharged to die at
24: Epping British Union, BU
Drum Corps, 'Comrade's' bugler
18 June 1943

DANBY, Sgt William Calvert:
5th Bn Green Howards: Kingston
Branch D/Leader British Union:
Age 36: killed in action: "buried
near this spot" in Adinkerke
Military Cemetery, Belgium: 31
May 1940.

EAST, Lt Phillip: 5th Bn
Queen's Own Cameron
Highlanders: Leytonstone British
Union: age 26: killed in action
Tunisia. Lies in Medjaze-el-Bab
War Cemetery, Tunisia: 24 April
1943.

FAIREY, W/O David George:
RAF 212 Sqd, killed on ops.
Cochin, India, age 23. lies
Madras War Cemetery:
Leytonstone British Union: 27
June 1944

FITCH, W/Com. R.I. 'Tigge'
DEC: RAF, killed on ops.,
Norfolk, lies in St. Nicholas
Churchyard, Kelvedon Hch
Essex: Clapham British Union.
At 26. 21 May 1945.

FOGG, Pte. James: 1st Bn
E/Lancs Regt: Manchester British
Union: killed in action, Cleve,
Germany. Buried Reichswald
Forest War Cemetery: Age 26. 11
February 1945.

GILL, Sgt. Pil. B. W.: RAF VR,
killed in a flying accident when
instructing at No. 3 Glider
Training School after release
from British concentration camp
as Political Prisoner, lies
Harehills Cem., Leeds. Leeds
British Union: At 22. 28 May
1943

GREENWOOD, Capt.
Charles: 8th Bn Parachute Regt,
Army Air Corps, killed in action
D-Day, lies Ranville War
Cemetery, Normandy: APO
Enfiled British Union, Acting
D/L 1939/40, London speaker. At
29. 6 June 1944

HASTINGS, Sgt. T.E.
'Tommy': RAF (VR): 7 Sqdn:
Age 31: Newcastle British
Union: killed in action, name
inscribed Runnymede
Memorial: 31 March 1940

IRVINE, Pte. R.: 1/5 Bn Queens
R Regt, killed in action near
Dunkirk, lies Strazeele
Communal Cemetery, France:
Shoreditch British Union: At 21.
28 May 1940

MAYS, Spr. John Basil: R.Eng.
dispatch rider killed Henswell
RAF station, Lincs, after Dunkirk
evacuation: lies St Chad
Churchyard, Harpswell: W/Leeds
British Union, Municipality
Candidate: at 25 26 July 1940

Mitford, Maj. The Hon. Tom:
KRRC: NHQ Branch British
Union: brother of Lady Mosley:
killed in action: age 36 Burma.
He is buried at Taukkyan War
Cemetery, Rangoon. 4 April
1945

MULLAN, L/Cpl 'Paddy':
Corps of Military Police,
formerly Palestine Police, killed
in action Battle of Knightsbridge
Box, lies in Knightsbridge War
Cemetery, Acroma, Libya: early
British Union, BU 'I' squad. 12
June 1942

WALSH, Sgt Michael: RAF VR
156 Sqd and Limehouse Branch
British Union: Age 23: killed in
flying ops. Name inscribed Panel
96 Runnymede Memorial. 27
July 1942

WATSON, A/B Cyril: Royal
Navy: Central Leeds Br. British
Union: age 21: killed in action
HMS Hardy, Narvik.
Remembered on Plymouth Naval
Memorial. 10 April 1940

For them - A Greater Sacrifice ...
And a Greater Glory.

Read on ...
www.oswaldmosley.com

In Memoriam

"Hark! The sound of many voices,
Echoes through the vale of ages,
Britain listens and rejoices,
Gazing on Tradition's pages..."

BAINES, Derek Talbot: BUF
'I' squad: Nr. Bognor: Summer
1981

BEVAN, Arthur: BU 'I' squad:
D/L West Ham: Parliamentary
Candidate Upton: 18B political
prisoner: At Basildon age 87 23
March 1988

BENNETT, Charles: Former
Mayor of Bethnal Green,
Chairman BG British Legions:
mbr. N/E BG British Union: 53:
June 1939

BOWMAN, William James:
Platting, Manchester British
Union July 1939

BROWN, Charles: D/Ldr
Wavertree Liverpool British
Union: 18B political prisoner
1940: Union Movement D/Ldr,
Salford, Lancs June 1962

COLE, Capt. T.F.: early officer
Burgess Hill British Union May
1939

CRABTREE, Bill: Bury Lancs
British Union: Union Movement:
July 1975

DICKINSON, H 'Pop': familiar
'Action' seller Manchester
Oxford Street: father of R/Insp.
Charlie Dickinson to whom his
last words were "stick to the
Movement". April 1940

LEE, H: Croydon, BU: 10 April
1938

MART, Dr. W.T.D. BM LRCS.
BSc: Sheffield BU 19 May 1940
McKECHNIE, Lt. Col: BU D/L
Hastings 13 May 1940

MERRITT, William:
Tottenham BU: In Australia:
April 1980

MITFORD, Unity Valkyrie:
sister of Lady Mosley 28 May
1948

MOSLEY, Maude Lady:
Mother and loyal supporter of
O.M.: head of Women's BUF in
early days: 20 June 1948

NICHOLLS, Tommy: South
London British Union June 1981

NIGHTINGALE, A: BU D/L
Horsham April 1948

PHILLIPS, Joe: Limehouse BU:
April 1951

POWELL, Vice-Adm. CB
CMG: BU Parliamentary
Candidate for Portsmouth: 27
May 1952

ROBERTSON, Kenneth:
Shoreditch BU May 1939

SHELMERDINE, Father
Philip: Early British Union
member and agent for BU
candidate at Middleton and
Prestwich, Lancs, 1940 just
before 18B detention during
which he suffered severe
interrogation at notorious
Latchmere House, Ham Cmn.
After the war he entered a
religious order.

VASILI MITROKHIN

The West owes an enormous debt of gratitude to Vasili Mitrokhin who died recently. An avowed communist, he worked his way up within the Soviet system to become a top KGB Officer in the field. Disillusioned when sidestepped for promotion, he became a desk bound operative responsible for archives. When these top-secret papers were moved from the Lubyanka to a customised secure depository outside Moscow, it became Mitrokhin's job to catalogue the entire collection dating back to 1917. For the next twelve years, he did his job in a most diligent way. Far too diligently. Every document that passed through his office had its highlights copied by hand, smuggled out and buried beneath his dacha. Had he been caught, it is without doubt, he would have been executed. (see the story of Oleg Penkovsky for the grisly details of one man who spied for the West, but was caught by the Russians).

In retirement, Mitrokhin was given permission to take a holiday in Latvia. Walking into the American Embassy with samples of his illicit archive he was soon ejected. He then walked down the road to the British Embassy who at once saw the value and importance of his copied paper archive. After a dangerous covert MI6 operation, the buried containers were transported to Britain. Vasili's one request was that they should be made public to show the Russian people just what sort of regime they had been living under. This did not happen. Only when the book on the Mitrokhin Archive was published in 1999 did the public at large get to know about this amazing coup and the bravery of one man in bringing it to the West. A serious embarrassment for the British Government was the naming of Britain's longest serving KGB spy, Melita Norwood "The spy who came in from the Co-Op". The Labour Government refused to arrest or prosecute her. It is in doubt that she was even interviewed by the secret service. Reputedly she is now writing a book!!!

The documents also revealed over 300 other spies, many based in Britain, who although known since 1992 had not been arrested. A scandal that begs the question, as to why nothing was done. Are the string-pullers to Blunt & Co still around?

COMRADE

Incorporating ACTION and UNION

Newsletter of Friends of O.M.



No. 58.

'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'

September 2004.

GOODBYE JOHNNY.

With deep regret we announce the death on August 26th. 2004 of John Warburton who, as John Christian, founded and edited COMRADE. He was 85 years old.

John joined the Cadet Section of British Union at the age of 14 and after moving from Lancashire to London became an active Blackshirt in Clapham where he eventually became Assistant District Leader (Sales). He was awarded the Steel Distinction and after the war became one of the first to join Union Movement undertaking many special assignments for the Leader.

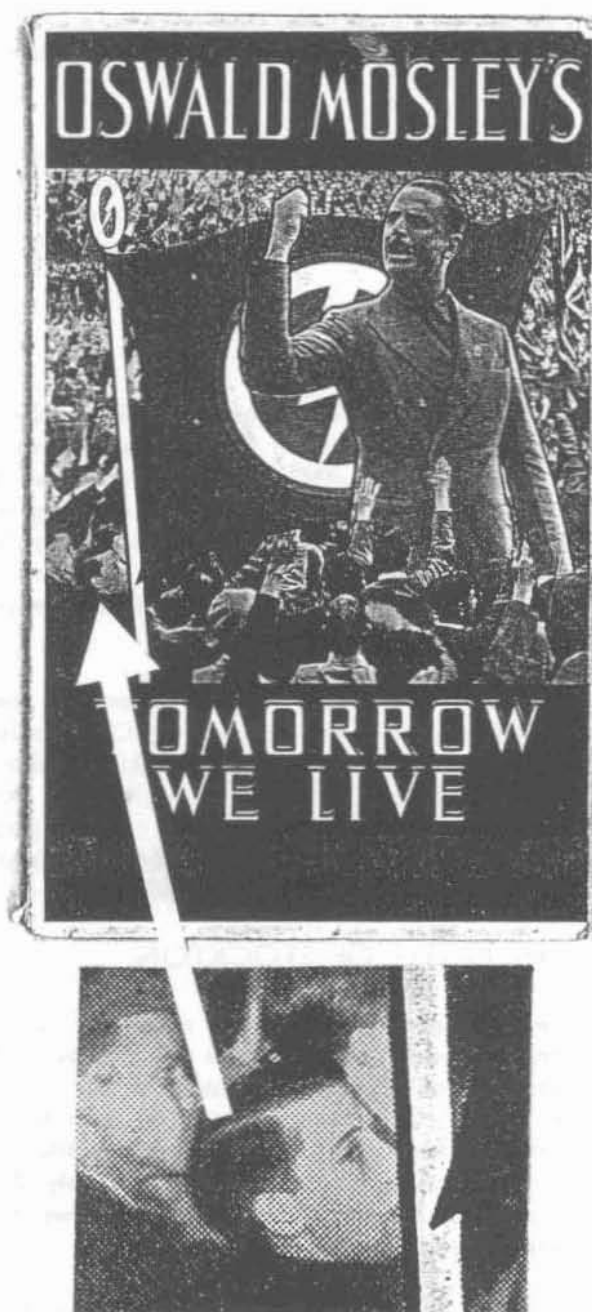
However, John's greatest contribution was to come late in life when he helped to establish the Friends of Oswald Mosley in 1982 and began to produce COMRADE in 1986. This filled an important role by keeping old comrades in touch and putting on record, often for the first time, the true facts of the Mosley Movement's struggle using new research into primary sources.

Although he never sought the limelight, John's friendship was greatly valued by a wide circle of comrades, academics, researchers and authors who appreciated both his gentlemanly manner and his wealth of knowledge concerning the past record of the Movement.

Together with his wife Joan, who had joined Mosley in New Party days, John's help and hospitality to everybody with an interest in the subject was almost limitless. He represented in person the Blackshirt spirit of service, endurance and the belief in a better society that would only come when the people of Britain were truly united.

All worthwhile things are the creation of one man or woman. Beyond the tributes of friends, the most enduring testimonial to John Warburton is COMRADE. Now preserved for all time in archives in many different countries of the world, the record which he began will remain his permanent epitaph.

LOGON-LOOKIN-LEARN
WWW.OSWALDMOSLEY.COM



John Warburton's youthful enthusiasm for the Cause was captured for all time on the front cover of Mosley's great pre-war book 'Tomorrow We Live' (1938). This picture, taken at one of the Leader's massive East London meetings at Limehouse on October 14th. 1936, depicts the future Editor of COMRADE as he always saw himself: just one among thousands.

ONE AMONG THOUSANDS.

John would have been the first to remind us that his contribution was no more or no less than tens of thousands of other Blackshirts who served the Cause. So in this issue of COMRADE we record the life of John Warburton not to commemorate him alone but as a tribute to all Mosley men and women now of the 'lost battalions', known and unknown, who gave so much in a noble attempt to prevent the decline of the country that they loved.

The story of Oswald Mosley's life is ably recorded in his autobiography 'MY LIFE'. So it is appropriate that this story, the symbolic record of all who served him and have now passed on, should be entitled 'THEIR LIFE'.

THEIR LIFE.

John Warburton, one of two sons of a Lancashire blacksmith, was born at Bury in 1919. The occasion that set the course of his life occurred on Armistice Day 1933 when he attended Mosley's first meeting at Bell Vue, Manchester, and responded immediately to the Leader's call 'Wake up, you men of England!'. John joined the British Union Cadets there and then at the age of 14.

Together with his brother Ned, he was present at the Battle of Stockton-on-Tees. Imported Communist opposition had been giving the local BU speaker, Captain Arthur Vincent Collier, a rough time for several weeks. The brothers joined a 100-strong contingent of Blackshirts who paraded through Middlesbrough before marching on to Stockton.

THE BATTLE OF STOCKTON.

In the Market Square the local members were struggling to put over their message to a crowd of 10,000 including many Red streetfighters clearly intent on Grievous Bodily Harm. John helped to push them back 40 yards and hold the line. During the Battle his brother Ned lost the sight of an eye and only the intervention of local people, horrified by the cowardly attack, prevented worst injury.

In the Autumn of 1936 John moved to London and transferred to the BU Clapham branch a few days before the Battle of Cable Street. The District Officer, Charles Daniels, gave special permission for him to march that day with the Blackshirts rather than the Greyshirt Cadets. The events of 4 October 1936 are well recorded. Ten days later, word spread through the back streets of East London that Mosley was planning to march right across the area from Bethnal Green to

Limehouse. John described the scene as 100,000 East Enders came to greet the Englishman they loved as he arrived in Salmon Lane: 'Out came the young men and women, old men, grandfathers, mothers carrying children, to shout 'Good Old Mosley' and 'Hail Mosley - White Man!'.

STAND BY THE KING!

Later that year John was actively involved in the Stand by the King demonstrations in the West End of London in a vain attempt to preserve the throne of the man who would have used all his influence to prevent war and combat unemployment.

By January 1937 he had become Assistant District Leader (Sales) for Clapham and a member of Division 1 Blackshirts. This involved him delivering the Movement's papers on a bicycle with a slingbag marked 'Action'. One day while waiting at traffic lights John was felled by a blow to the head from behind followed by one to the eye. Before he could rise, the brave assailant ran off. The black eye that resulted was only the first of many.

During March 1937 he actively canvassed for British Union in the East London elections which proved beyond doubt the solid base of support for the Movement among the people of that patriotic but impoverished area. A month later he was involved in a famous incident in Hyde Park. At a left-wing 'Save Spain' rally, Unity Mitford, Mosley's sister-in-law, was threatened by the mob for expressing a personal opinion not in keeping with the sentiments of the democratic organisers. John and Ned observed the disturbance that ensued and weighed in to rescue her. A long and fierce fight followed before they eventually escorted her to safety.

ON THE MARCH.

The future Editor of COMRADE was also present at the British Union Day march in May 1937 from Bethnal Green to Limehouse (the largest ever held to that date) and the Kentish Town to Trafalgar Square march in July. So many Blackshirts and supporters were present on the latter occasion that the police requested them to march four abreast instead of the usual three to shorten the over-long column. This was also the occasion when OM knocked out a Red attacker with a single blow before speaking to an audience estimated by The Times to number 150,000 people.

That Summer John gained another black eye when he and three other Blackshirts were attacked after hearing Raven Thomson speak in Bermondsey. The incident brought out the poet in the streetfighter when he

wrote:

*Glorious, Victorious,
A couple of hundred Reds between the four of us.
Glory be to God there wasn't more of us.
For one of us could beat the bloody lot.
Why not!*

This time John's attacker was arrested.

FIRST MEETING WITH MOSLEY.

Another memorable event for the two Blackshirt brothers occurred in August when they were travelling down to the Blackshirt Summer Camp at Selsey. They stopped for lunch at the Dolphin and Anchor Hotel in Chichester and noticed OM and Francis Hawkins dining in the restaurant. To their surprise the Leader recognised them and called them over for a chat. It was the first time John met OM personally but not the last.

The final great march of 1937 took place through Bermondsey in October and John was present wearing his newly awarded Steel Distinction awarded 'as a sign of the Leader's appreciation and devotion to the Cause'. The following Spring he transferred to the Battersea branch where he met his future wife Joan at the Tyneham Road DHQ. It was perhaps more highly cosmopolitan than most BU branches with a membership that included former Greenshirts, Anglo-Indians, Gibraltarians and a Jewish ex-Communist named Lew Levisohn who later became Manager and husband of the famous Black honky-tonk pianist Winifred Attwell. John remembered: 'Lew was obviously Jewish and in fact made jocular reference to his ancestors. He nevertheless took part in many activities and marches and we had no reason to believe, as many would, that 'our Lew' was one of the opposition's 'moles'.

In 1938 John attended the second big Bermondsey march in May and in the Summer was active in the 'Britain First' campaign which involved 20 Leader meetings in many different districts of London and culminated in the massive 'Mosley for Peace' demo in Lime Grove, Hammersmith, in October.

PEACE WITH HONOUR.

As storm clouds gathered the following year, John intensified his effort for British Union. He participated in the longest-ever march from the Embankment to Ridley Road in May 1939 at which he remembered the 60 Honour Standards being carried for the first time. This was the procession that stretched up Northumberland Avenue, around three side of



John in 1936 as Assistant District Leader (Sales) for Clapham wearing the Action Press Uniform.

Trafalgar Square and far up St. Martins Lane while the rear was still only starting off at the Embankment. During the late 1930s, each British Union march was noticeably larger than the last and this fact was beginning to disturb the authorities.

Shortly after the May Day march John was sacked from his job. He had taken a day off work to attend another of the Leader's meetings at Manchester Trade Hall but someone with a political axe to grind blew his cover story by informing his employers. One of the greatest disappointments of John's life was the fact that he was unable to attend the famous Earls Court Peace Rally in July 1939: the largest indoor meeting ever held in the world. He had already joined the Army and was ordered to report to camp the day before. He wrote to his Commanding Officer cheekily asking for 'leave' even before he had joined. But he had only himself to blame having volunteered at 20 to be included in the first draft which was for 21-year olds.

However, as some consolation, John was present in military uniform in October 1939 at London's Ridley Road when Mosley spoke for peace with honour amidst scenes of unprecedented fervour from the large number of people present. A few days later he also

attended OM's packed meeting at the Stoll Theatre, Kingsway. This was John's last physical involvement with British Union. Strangely, no members of Battersea branch were detained under Defence Regulation 18B although many from surrounding districts such as Brixton were - and John's future wife was interviewed about him by Special Branch.

Of this period he later wrote: 'From 1940 on it was my firm view that Mosley had been detained not because the Government really doubted his loyalty but because his policy of 'Peace with Honour and British Empire intact and our People safe' was beginning to gain widespread support.'

NYE BEVAN REVEALS ALL.

Further evidence to confirm his view came when John was present in a professional capacity at a Labour Party Victory Rally at the Savoy Hotel in 1945. Aneurin Bevan, the Labour leader, let the cat out of the bag after a few drinks when he said: 'If we hadn't forced Churchill to imprison Mosley - who knows what he might have achieved? He was getting dangerous. People were beginning to listen to him and agree. He might have forced a quick end to the war and become the alternative force to Capitalism.'

After the war, John Warburton was among the first to join Union Movement and continued to build his photographic record of events associated with the Mosley Movements. He served on many UM Committees, acted as driver to OM and was often summoned to Crowood House, Ramsbury, and later to Ireland, for consultation with the Leader.

During the 1970s, John joined forces with Bernard Levin, the well-known journalist, to successfully combat control by extreme Leftists of the National Union of Journalists of which they were both members.



FRIENDS OF MOSLEY.

After the death of The Great Man, a small group of supporters gathered in a pub in Victoria to form the Friends of Oswald Mosley (FOM). Its purpose was to complement the activities of Union Movement by maintaining social contact with veteran members and encouraging new research into Oswald Mosley and the Movements that he led. John was one of this group and became a Council Member of FOM. Four years later he began the journal COMRADE which published the results of this research and helped further in keeping former members in touch.

Despite failing health in later years, he continued to assist a large number of undergraduates, authors, broadcasters and researchers and played a major part in the academic world's more balanced appraisal of OM and the Blackshirt Movement.

Tribute must be paid to John's wife, Joan. She gave her complete support to John's activities at all times and was a stalwart member of the New Party, British Union and Union Movement. She was one of the quiet helpers without who no Mosley Movement meeting, branch or publication could function. As OM once said: 'Without the support of women we would not have achieved one-quarter of what we have'.

The final words on John Warburton should also be the Leader's. Many years ago Mosley was discussing him with his personal secretary and gave his considered opinion: 'He comes from the finest Yeoman stock'

Below left: John pauses to read the latest issue of Action at the Blackshirt Summer Camp at Selsey in August 1937. Below: Sixty years after the Selsey Camp, John returned to the site and found it has become the largest caravan park in the European Union.



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COMRADE

Incorporating ACTION and UNION

Newsletter of Friends of QM



'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'

No.59

SAYING IT AS IT IS

MAY 2005

AS OF RIGHT

THE DELUGE DEFINED

By Adrian Pearce

In the run-up to admitting ten Eastern European countries into the European Union, the British Government estimated an annual influx of between 5,000 and 13,000 immigrants seeking work in the United Kingdom. A year on the reality can be exposed. A total of 90,000 people registered for work in the first five months. Such was the rush that it became obvious that 40,000 of these applicants were already here, working illegally and were simply regularising their status.

Most of the countries within the E.U. imposed strict conditions of entry that would help spread the impact of absorbing low G.D.P. economies into existing prosperous nations. Britain allowed immediate entry to all.

The alibi for this foolishness was the so called shortage of labour in the U.K. "Hospitals could not function". "Who was to service agriculture" etc. The simple answer to these plaintive government cries was of course to offer a decent wage and reform the present penal (stealth) tax system. British nurses are leaving the profession in droves, why? because terms and conditions are so poor. Farmers are being squeezed mercilessly by the Supermarkets, so in turn, must employ the cheapest, invariably foreign labour around. This, no doubt, serves the government well in keeping wages at a low level. Work permits are being issued at the rate of

175,000 a year. Will these be favoured towards the new members of the E.U. thus keeping down entry from other parts of the world. Sangatte may have been razed to the ground but aspiring asylum seekers have not gone away. In the shadow of Calais Town Hall and all along the adjacent coast illegals wait, still trying to enter Britain by lorry, rail and boat. Yet more pressure is coming from Holland where a long overdue expulsion policy is underway. Two more Eastern European nations, Romania and Bulgaria are due to join in a couple of years time. Some real thought needs to be given to this question.

Coming on behind is the big one waiting in the wings. As the saying goes "You ain't seen nothing yet"

TURKISH DELIGHT

World Statesman Blair is at it again. Thanks largely to his prompting, inevitably backed by the Americans, Turkey is to start

negotiations to join the E.U. This predominantly Muslim country of 70 million with 95% of its land mass in Asia enjoys a form of Islamic Secularism brought about by the father of the nation, Mustafa Kemal Ataturk. Today, this revered leader's concept is kept in place by highly trained and motivated armed forces, numbering in excess of three quarters of a million, more than the combined forces of many Western European countries including Britain and France. Opposed by the majority of E.U. members, Turkey has been pleading its case for over forty years. Its veneer of respectability is hardly sustained once you look at its recent history. Within a lifetime, they have not been adverse to hanging a Prime Minister.

Imprisonment and torture are commonplace. In 1997 the armed forces intervened to crush a radical Islamic Government, in order to preserve the teachings of Ataturk. Strangely, Turkish Imams are all in favour of joining secular Europe. They know that the woolly western attitude towards Islam can be the big chance to cut through and convert vast swathes of member

FLYING HIGH

If ever a point needs to be made about the advantages of European unity a look at the new 840 seater Airbus A 380 provides the answer. A joint British, French, German and Spanish collaboration, it has already attracted 154 orders. It starts to fly commercially next year.

Costing £150M each, over 400 British firms had a major input in its design together with the manufacture of its wings, engines and landing gear. It will underpin over 60,000 U.K. jobs.

Concorde, another European achievement could never make a profit. For years it was kept in the air as a flag waving loss maker. Plane makers have learnt their lesson.

Britain has always had the capacity for innovation, this potential world-beater shows how much more commercial strength can be found within a United States of Europe.

states.

For centuries, Europe Has enjoyed an established regional definition including religion and race. Proposals to introduce Muslim Turkey into the E.U. will have the potential to destroy this free thinking homogenous society.

A Christian Europe or Islamic Europe is likely to be the coming question. Shiah law anyone?

COMMEMORATION

On the Saturday nearest to the leader's birthday Friends of Mosley met at a central London venue. Hard to believe that this man, whom we always remember so full of youthful energy and vigour, was born 108 years ago.

Martin Maloney, formerly of the Union Movement Directorate, gave a spirited speech on the extreme danger of bully-boy Bush's mad war on all things non-American. In whose name does Blair make Britain an accomplice in bringing a terrible death to so many children of Iraq, their brothers, sisters, mothers, fathers and grandparents?

The evening was enlivened by a number of guests new to our gatherings. Many salient topics were discussed.

The dangers of snowballing immigration were pointed out: in 10 years, people of white culture in Birmingham would be in a minority. Would London be far behind? Our attention was drawn to the problem of having a large Islamic base in Britain where fundamentalist terrorists could hide and find support.

Friends of Mosley share many of their fears. It would be our democratic choice that zero immigration should be enforced without exception and opportunity provided for those who wish to return to good jobs and living conditions in their countries of ethnic origin. Mosley explained how these better living conditions could readily be achieved. Rather than demonise men and women of colour, he told us to work with them to dismantle the multiracial myth and achieve a noble end in the common interest of Black, Brown and White alike. Why make enemies of people who should be helping you achieve your ends?

It was firmly pointed out to the more nationalistic minds that any move to withdraw from Europe would leave Britain completely dependent for survival on the global economy controlled by international financial interests. Only a self-sufficient United Europe can offer our people true independence.

But the present European Union is not Mosley's Europe, certainly not the Europe that we want. Mosley said 'have a common foreign policy, common defence policy, common economic policy and a European government elected directly by the people with the power to act in these areas alone. And leave the rest to the regional Governments.

So different countries could decide for themselves about abortion law, what side of the road to drive on and how their beer should taste depending on



JOHN WARBURTON PHOTOGRAPHED AS A UNIFORMED TEENAGE MEMBER OF BRITISH UNION TOGETHER WITH A PICTURE TAKEN A FEW MONTHS PRIOR TO HIS DEATH.

THANKS TO HIS FORESIGHT COMRADE WAS FOUNDED IN 1986 AND SOON BECAME, AND CONTINUES TO BE, A SOURCE OF DEEPLY RESEARCHED ARTICLES ON THE LIFE OF SIR OSWALD MOSLEY AND ALL HE STOOD FOR.

their different cultural development.

Instead, the present European Union turns the whole idea on its head. Using an army of bureaucrats, it seeks to standardise and make uniform every aspect of European life – right down to the maximum angle of bend on cucumbers. But on really important issues like the war on the Iraqi people, where we should present a unified front, Blair stands apart from other European leaders and allies himself to George Bush: the weirdest and most worrying U.S. President in living memory.

Food for thought for those hearing Mosley's policy for the first time.

A eulogy was also read to our old comrade, John Warburton, founder member of both FOM and COMRADE, who died last August. His friendship we will always value and his advice is already sorely missed.

As I headed homewards along the late night London streets pushing past the drug traffickers, cosmopolitan beggars and teenage binge drinkers, I thought: 'If only Mosley were alive and twenty five today, it would be another story ...'

Gordon Beckwell



TRIBUTE TO JOHN WARBURTON

Above all, John Warburton was a gentleman. He was considerate and helpful towards everyone who passed his way. And his friends never heard him say an unkind word about anybody – whatever their background.

John Warburton was a political activist. When still a teenager he decided that war, poverty and the decline of civilised values were things worth fighting against. Seventy years later he was still speaking out against these things to anybody who would listen.

John Warburton was a gifted photo-journalist. His pictures captured the spirit of the age he lived in. None more than his classic wartime photo, taken in St John's Hill where he lived, of a seriously injured young woman being passed over the heads of a crowd from the smoking remains of a trolley bus hit by a bomb.

John Warburton was a devoted husband. Although not blessed with children, he and his wife Joan found perfect happiness in each other's company for over half a century. Those who knew John and Joan could never imagine a cross word passing between them.

John Warburton was an unrepentant heavy smoker. He got through 60 cigarettes a day for almost 70 years – and paid no heed to friends who advised moderation. But he did give up 10 days before he died. His friends can hear him now saying: 'See what happens when you stop smoking!'

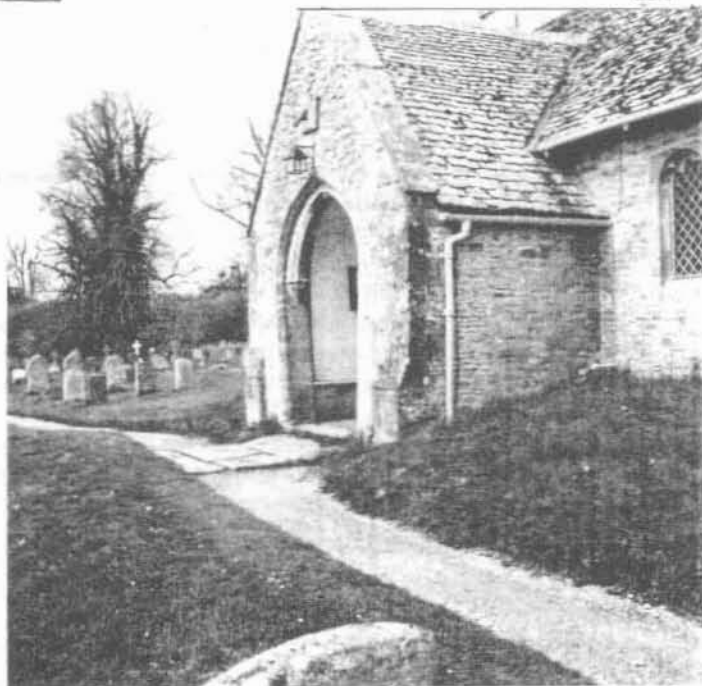
John Warburton sought to change Britain in a way he believed would be benign. Along the way, he achieved what all men and women strive for.

He left his mark upon the world.

FULL CIRCLE

Cotswold Country is always worth exploration. Large tracts of stonewall or hedgerow edged fields remain, often sandwiched between ubiquitous M or A roads, sometimes with the 'bonus' of living grazing cattle. All topped out by time-warped villages. The sense of true middle England is palpable. West of Oxford, the village of Swinbrook seems to have changed little over the centuries. The village store may have closed but the long serving Swan Inn still welcomes. In the parish church of St. Mary, the Fettiplace family are commemorated in stone and brass. In the twentieth century the Redesdale family left their mark. Thanks to the distinguished author Mary S. Lovell, we have detailed recall of the Mitford family. Lord Redesdale donating pews thanks to "a good win on the Grand National". Lady Redesdale giving 18th century chandeliers redundant from the family ballroom at Asthall Manor. Timing the vicars sermon by stop-watch. The disinclination to educate any of the girls. A cycle of traditional country living: hunting, fishing, weekend house parties, doing the London Season. Long before the novels of Nancy, the family became well known. Just the names Decca, Unity, Diana evoked diverse reaction. Today the village and particularly the 12th Century church resonate to the family. A memorial to Tom, the only son, tragically killed in the closing stages of the war. In a line, just west of the porch, the graves of Nancy and Unity. Recently erected in fresh hewn Cotswold stone the simple inscription DIANA MOSLEY NÉE MITFORD 1910 2003.

Life travails for Diana are over. It was her wish to return for burial at Swinbrook. The story of an enduring love without qualification comes full circle.



JOHN WARBURTON

A.K.A

JOHN CHRISTIAN

Although gravely ill we were astonished to see John quietly seated in Swinbrook churchyard awaiting the funeral of Lady Mosley. This man who had hardly left his flat in months, was determined to pay his last respects in person to a lady he revered. Travelling by public transport, entailing many changes, he illustrated steely determination and grit of a true blackshirt, an example to us all. During his remaining months he often recalled his 'day out' A.C.

At one of Mosley's packed out Northern meetings at the Free Trade Hall, Manchester, a collection was taking place with boxes being passed along the

rows. All went well until a large group of students refused to give up the well-filled box. They passed it forward and back offered it to me and snatched it back. Seeing my difficulty John ran forward and admonished the whole group for such childish behaviour. Why had they bothered to come and listen to hard political facts of life, then let themselves down. John's forceful and passionate words did the trick. Skylarking was over, the box was meekly handed back. I continued my collecting duties without further incident. F.E.

I first met John Warburton in the early 1980s when I began to become interested in the history of the Mosley movements. I went along to his flat to interview him and before long he was showing me some photographs that he had taken in the late

1930s.

One of the photos showed a local Blackshirt march held by the Clapham branch in London for which John was Assistant District Leader. I couldn't help but notice that one of the marchers was of unmistakeably Jewish appearance. No doubt about it. Not knowing John at that stage, I didn't know how he would react – but my curiosity got the better of me and I plucked up courage to ask the question.

'Er, John,' I said hesitantly. 'This guy here on the march. He, er, looks Jewish'.

John took a look and smiled. 'Ah, that was Lew' he replied. 'Lew Levisohn. He later became the Manager of Winifred Atwell, the black honky-tonk pianist who became famous after the war. In fact Lew eventually married her.'

I persisted with my line of enquiry. 'But, er, wasn't there a problem bearing in mind you were involved in a big argument with Jews at the time?'

'Not at all. Lew supported our policies, so it was natural he should be a member and come along on the marches. I suppose some people might be a bit suspicious, specially as he'd been an active member of the Communist Party before he joined us. Some might have thought he was a mole. But nobody took much notice of him being Jewish, really.'

And then he added with a laugh: 'But we used to pull his leg about the situation a bit sometimes'. I could see that my research into British Union was going to be more complex than I at first imagined.

Gordon Beckwell.

PRISONER 2202 WRITES HOME

On the afternoon of The 23rd May 1940, Sir Oswald Mosley was arrested as he arrived at his London home in Dolphin Square. Caught under Regulation 18B he was immediately transported to Brixton Prison. In the weeks prior to the detention of his wife Diana, communication between the couple was by prison visits and correspondence both administered under strict remand prisoner conditions. Among the recent release of documents by the National Archive has emerged copies of letter sent by Sir Oswald to his wife during that six week period.

For a long time M15/Special Branch had had Mosley under intense surveillance, which included placing 'moles' within British Union, planting listening devices and intercepting mail. After Sir Oswald's arrest every letter sent from his cell was laboriously copied by hand, no photocopy machines in those days! This often caused anything up to thirty-six hours delay as Special Branch Officers bravely struggled with Sir Oswald's notoriously impenetrable handwriting. The surviving copies of this correspondence gives a rare insight into the first weeks of imprisonment that was to extend to three and a half years without charge or trial.

Numerous house fires had dogged the lives of the Mosley family so it is doubtful if the originals still survive. As with the hundred and seven page file on Mosley's First World War record this newly released material helps shed light on a patriots thinking at a crucial time in the history of the Nation. The complete file is listed under KV2/884.

The following are selected extracts.

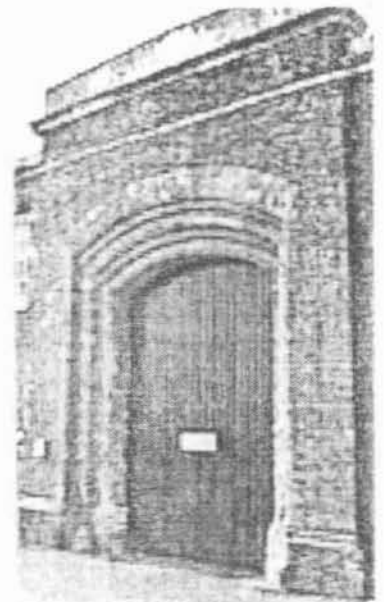
*Letter posted, Brixton 5.15pm 26-6-40 -
The Honble Lady Mosley, Sandray Farm,
Denham, Uxbridge Bucks.*

No 2202

Mosley O.B.

*My Darling Percher, June 19-40.
Will you ask my secretary,
or anyone else available to do some
preliminary work for me on the files of my
writings and speeches, the object is to establish
inter alia - a) we have no foreign
models and are a purely British organisation -
for this purpose all "quotes early and late" on
the lines of my forward of "Tomorrow we live"*

AN EXAMPLE OF AN M15 OFFICERS COPY WRITING OF SIR OSWALDS INTERCEPTED LETTERS PRIOR TO THE ORIGINAL BEING SENT ON TO LADY MOSLEY. IT IS EXTREMELY DOUBTFUL IF ANY OF THE ORIGINALS SURVIVE.



THE GRIM ENTRANCE TO BRIXTON PRISON WHERE THESE LETTERS WERE PENNED.

My Darling Percher,

Will you ask my secretary or anyone else available to do some preliminary work for me on the files of my writings and speeches, the object is to establish inter alia

- a) we have no foreign models and are a purely British organisation - for this purpose all quotes early and late on the lines of my forward of 'Tomorrow We Live' would be useful.
- b) [we] quite establish the British [nature] and loyalty - whether of our movement 'Early and Late'
- 3) That we are a National interest movement. All quotes concerning the different sections of the Labour Party in this respect.
- 4) My demands before and since the war that Britain should be properly armed in case it will ever be attacked - my demands of the parties - now or forever their neglect of our defences.
- 5) My instruction at beginning of war and instructions since to all our members to obey orders and do their duty to the services.

My Darling Percher,

Many thanks for letter re premises whose rent I guaranteed - I think the companies would do well to take the £250 p.a. offer or a monthly tenancy, even if the shop was not used at present. This offer should be put in writing and brought to the Directors, otherwise if they are on the premises after quarter day, I might get landed for another two years guarantee that monthly tenancy at £250 p.a. should be satisfactory and the rest of the files released would go to the loaned house.

Re: Action - I would advise in the circumstances neither it nor 'Newsletter' is brought out and everyone informed it is at present impossible - the name should be kept alive - re defendants Fund - I would suggest a committee of Mrs Hathy Jackson - Mrs Larrby (who I understand has given or will give £100). And the accountant - you should not be on this committee - it seems to me that in present circumstances our H.Q. can do nothing except filing newspaper cuttings etc. and should confine themselves to that work for future use.

My Darling,

It is so sad never to have more time to discuss anything but business when I see you and not even time to do that properly – you are such a (adorable) Percher and have been so splendid in all these troubles – I hope the solicitors R.D & Co. will come to see me if they are accepting a watching brief in that case as they should know what to say. If they have not time my instructions to everyone at the beginning of the war to obey the law in everyway and do nothing to injure the country in any way – should suffice. Although many subsequent statements to the same effect. I hope you got my letter asking [my] secretary to begin preliminary work finding quotes I should want for my appeal. Will you please send Michael a wire from me for his birthday tomorrow the 25th June late! All this is written with [a] new pen much better – so many thanks – also for the lovely 'blow-out' which was much appreciated. Have thought much where should 'K' his Darling Percher and his [children, go] when they take Denham away as well as its Daddy. On the whole I think the London flat would be the best place at present. I really do not think the centre of a big city is any worse than the open country. Possibly better! While in everyway it would be more convenient for you. But you must promise to go down to the shelter if it really starts up. Some old fashioned English gentleman would love any shadow of excuse to just walk in.

I do not think Miss Francis need go to Scotland now. We might readjust Micky's holiday – dividing them into two parts. Anyway it does not matter for the moment.

Will you please post me an extra pound note before the end of the week as the gay nightlife in this sporting establishment really cleaned me out last week before I got my allowance – such extravagance! Blessed Percher. I gave you so many tiresome things to do. You are so good and so much loved and admired for being so kind and competent. All Love K.

Must promise to go down to the shelter if it really starts up –

Some old fashioned English gentleman would love any shadow of excuse to just walk in –

I do not think Miss Francis need go to Scotland now – we might readjust Micky's holiday – dividing them into two parts. Anyway it does not matter for the moment. Will you please post me an extra pound note before the end of the week as the gay nightlife in this sporting establishment really cleaned me out last week before I got my allowance – such extravagance! Blessed Percher. I gave you so many tiresome things to do. You are so good and so much loved and admired for being so kind and competent – all love K.

Undoubtedly more letters were written together with replies. Nothing further has so far emerged in original or copy form.

Note: 'K' refers to 'Kit' the name Diana Mosley often called her husband. Brackets are interpretations of indistinct words.



SIR OSWALD MOSLEY DURING INCARCERATION.



LADY DIANA MOSLEY RECIPIENT OF THESE LETTERS.

Uxbridge. Ref JB boxes 35951

*The Personnel Dept
JB*

Submitted with reference to the above described boxes.

for HEAD

27 6 40

OFFICIAL STAMP OF THE HEAD POST MASTER UXBRIDGE WHERE IT IS PRESUMED THE LETTERS BOUND FOR NEARBY DENHAM WERE INTERCEPTED FOR SCRUTINY AND COPYING.

undecipherable

JB

as written

JB

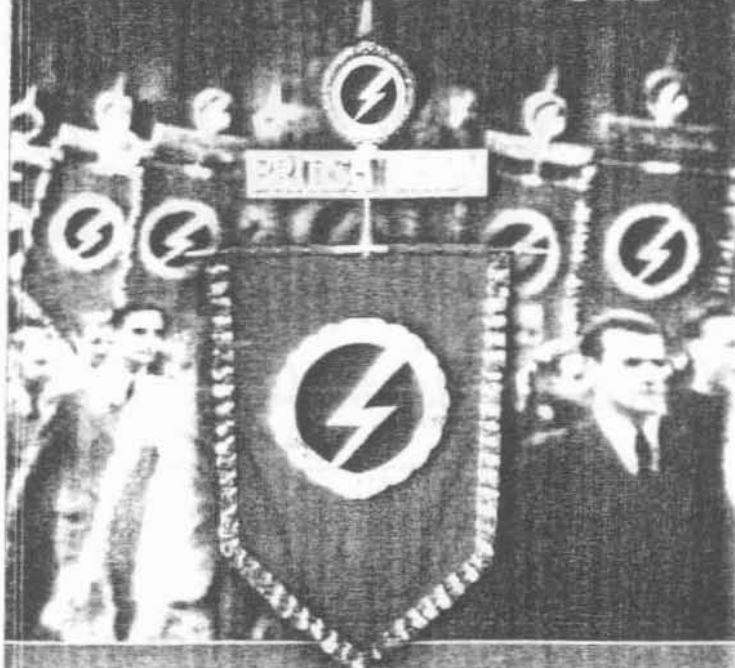
N.B. Great difficulty was experienced in reading Mosley letter JB 16/40

EXASPERATION EXPRESSED BY THE M15 OFFICER STRUGGLING TO UNDERSTAND SIR OSWALD'S WRITING.

WITH GRATEFUL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TO THE NATIONAL ARCHIVE AND THE MOSLEY FAMILY FOR PERMISSION TO PUBLISH THESE DOCUMENTS.

SIGNS OF THE TIMES

MOSLEY'S MEN IN BLACK



Uniforms, Flags and Insignia of the British Union of Fascists 1932 - 1940 & Union Movement

John Millican

The word Blackshirt has been synonymous with the Mosley movement since its founding in 1932. In that time very little has been written about the ranking structure of the organisation as reflected in its uniforms, banners and awards.

At last a detailed study has been published. **Mosley's Men in Black** has a background of thirty years authoritative, some might say obsessive research. Thanks to the long-term project an enormous amount of detail has been garnered, anyone attempting such an exercise in more recent times could not hope to obtain the detail that abounds in this book.

Its author, John Millican, took the first practical steps by tracing and meeting the survivors who had joined Mosley in his crusade. Much valuable information was gathered. Libraries, museums, private collections together with exhaustive scanning of newspapers followed. Assembling these disparate sources into a coherent whole proved a mammoth undertaking. Context was recognised as all important, something similar publications recording foreign decorations often fail to do.

Historical detail in words and pictures give enormous weight and meaning to the motivation for design.

Chapters are nearly always subdivided. For instance, uniforms have no less than seven further headings. All this covering a period of just over four years. We learn about the Fascist Union of British Workers, a fledgling. Khaki shirted, black tied, grey trousered group that by February 1933 had become the British Union industrial arm. Its distinctive metal lapel badge and embroidered cloth emblem are illustrated in colour. Much original information is given on banners, brassards and badges. We learn the founding gold colouring fasces emblem had very early in 1935 been superseded by the well-known flash and circle.

One of the most arresting chapters is headed 'Distinctions'. With the banning of uniforms at the end of 1936, it was announced in June 1937 that four classes of badge would be awarded on merit: gold, bronze, steel and white metal. These are illustrated, together, with the certificates that went with them.

One extraordinary fact to emerge

is that no official commemorative badge was issued in recognition of the many members and supporters that suffered loss of liberty and deprivation under the draconian law 18B.

Post-war Union Movement awards were thin in number, but the few officially issued are illustrated.

Another area of considerable interest today are 'collectables'. A good cross section of these are included from De La Rue playing cards to Royal Staffordshire china by way of a brass emblematic fireside companion set!

With over 200 pictures, many in colour this 136 page hardback will undoubtedly remain the definitive work on the subject.

Gregory Maitland

Mosley's Men in Black

By John Millican

Brockington

ISBN: 0-9515253-2-8

£30.00



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In a phoney world of well being, engineered by free use of the plastic, cheapened television, throw-away lottery money to hold restive sections of the populous in check, quangos numbered in the hundreds the inescapable fact is that this country is sinking ... *now read on*

By Peter Kennedy

THE LAST BATTLE FOR BRITAIN

The Dutch, a famous sea-faring nation in the past. Are taking to the oceans and skies. Motivation? To escape the hell-hole of their "multi-cultural" homeland. "Dutch desert their changing country", ran a Daily Telegraph headline. For which read "Changing Holland deserts the Dutch."

The Netherlands ran the report, "have been transformed in barely 30 years from a tight-knit Christian society into a polyethnic state, with three million people of immigrant background."

The Telegraph showed a bit of Dutch courage in printing the story, but from its pitch Holland might be a far-away country remote from the British experience. No editorial exploration of an issue with topical resonance for Britain, and not a single columnist venturing as much as a toe in the choppy waters.

When former German socialist Chancellor Helmut Schmidt remarked that multi-culturalism is a mistake and cannot work except under an authoritarian regime, his theme got the same treatment.

In fact Mr Schmidt errs only in his conclusion. Multi-culturalism – or multi-racialism in the cant-free pre-PC term – does not and cannot work in any political system. If totalitarian rule made for multi-cultural success, then it would have succeeded in Britain. For if one characteristic can be ascribed to the Blair regime, aside from endemic lying and corruption, it is that in the matter of "multi-culturalism" and "rainbow" ethnic engineering, Blair rule has the instincts and stamp of totalitarianism.

SOCIAL ENGINEERING

Totalitarian regimes sometimes claimed to represent the popular will. But the Blair cabal is imposing on Britain a cultural, social and genetic deconstruction to which the great majority of its indigenous population is strongly opposed. And in the simmering, angry urban centres, bitterly resented.

The people were never asked if they wanted to overturn 1,000 years of homogenous nationhood, and the multi-racialist "alternative" was never put to the vote. Our opinions when not suppressed or abused, are summarily disregarded by the major parties and a contemptuous liberal Establishment. So we are

told what we are allowed to believe. That which is imposed must be "celebrated" and when not celebrated, endured. Such is totalitarian "liberal democracy." The Telegraph described Dutch multi-culturalism as a failed "experiment." But third world immigration was no experiment! Experiments proper are restricted in their application and tentative in their expectations, exercises in applied learning, conducted in a spirit of enquiry and in circumstances where the consequences of failure are limited and erroneous hypotheses rejected.

The visitation of multi-culturalism on ancient European nations has stood all these qualification and disciplines on their head. It is as if lighted matches and combustible material were tossed into a settled and harmonious household in the name of an "experiment" in progressive domestic heating. Mass third world immigration began as a mixture of short-termism, sentimentality, and drift. Once into its stride it has been propagated and enforced by political cowardice, feeble-mindedness, deception and the most malign and destructive force in our history.

Like the Netherlands – with a similar history of political establishment enforcement – Britain has been transformed to the point where in major cities, whites are or will soon be in the minority, and an increasingly bullied and cowed indigenous Anglo-Saxon-Celtic peoples and culture hardly dare speak their name.

REAPING THE REWARDS

And so when a survey shows that more than one in two Britons want to settle abroad – "they do not like what has happened to their country" – the "ethnic" factor is wiped clean from the public slate of contributory causes.

Other explanations are obvious. Britain is now the most criminally violent nation in the western world – gun crime and mugging a distinct "ethnic" contribution. The police, once an object of public confidence, are now widely viewed – notwithstanding the dedication of many frustrated officers – as lacking even the will to enforce the law, and have become instead the zealous enforcers of Blair-directed Political Correctness.

One in five of our people is reported to be illiterate, bullying

rife in schools and workplaces, the NHS carries a permanent sick-note, the transport system sub-standard and in the case of rail, hobbled by incompetence and political mismanagement. Family life is disintegrating. We may not win many sporting golds, but, line us up for divorce, drug abuse, under-age pregnancies, binge-drinking, abortions, single mothers and feckless unmarried fathers, and we out-perform the world.

Meantime the British work the longest hours in Europe while our manufacturing based continues to shrink. Jobs and technology are shipped out to cheap labour countries, part of the New World Order served by Blair and his cronies, and cheered on by Howard, Kennedy and the controlled Press.

BOGUS PHILOSOPHY

Obvious but less quantifiable are those socially corrosive, coarsening and brutalising features of modern British life, of which as the broadcaster John Humphrys says, television – another Blairite domain – is a major cause.

All these factors are the consequence of decades of Old Gang rule and philosophies entrenched at every level of the state. This is their Britain, their creation. What went round has come around.

But mass third world immigration and the ensuing white-flight? Air-brushed by the political Establishment and controlled media! After all it is hard to reconcile the endlessly proclaimed joys of "ethnic diversity", "cultural enrichment" and "vibrant communities" with the contradictory evidence and the fact that half the white population wants to leave.

And here we come to another truth about multi-culti. If such a blessing, why is so much time, money, censorship, deceit and legislation spent on enforcing it? And why are white people not migrating from boring old Caucasian outposts and flocking to beacons of well ordered civilisation such as Bradford, Brent or Balsall Heath?

None of this troubles the fawning Old Party politicians or Establishment responsible for the greatest disaster to overcome this nation. Quite the reverse. They rejoice in the transformation of Britain, eager to give it another downward shove, and so the brainwashing and manipulation

continues.

For the political establishment there are "ethnic" voters to be flattered, courted and bribed – this last desperate throw of played-out Conservatism – and for the post-Marxists and left-liberals, the fulfilling of subversive dreams. No Red Flag? Pity, but fewer white faces, better! And what counts the failure to abolish private property when set against the abolition of Britain itself?

And now for the first time in peace, the agencies and functionaries of the State at every level are deployed in the interest of the globalist/multi-culti nexus and against the national and genetic interests of Britain and the British people.

WE TRIED OUR BEST

When Union Movement made significant advances in the early sixties, the word went out to "Stop Mosley!" The ban on public meetings was tightened, and organised Communist and Jewish thuggery was underpinned by Government, police, and media. Mosley called it "The Stink State," and 40 years later there can be no doubt that a totalitarian Stink State in an even more advanced condition of corruption is working to close down the BNP.

Having politicised the Civil Service, the crone-promoting

Blair has moved into the judiciary. The dirty-tricks services are now political partisans, while the higher echelons of the police are unabashed zealous political catspaws – in a word corrupt. The globalist supporting – and largely globalist-owned – mass media of course, is completely "on side."

This year if the 60th anniversary of the end of the World War, and those dismantling the Britain they hate will deliver unctuous platitudes about those who fought and died believing they were saving the country they loved.

Looking around the Britain of 2005, veterans may well ask "Is it for this that we fought and suffered?" Now the Enemy is not at the gate, but within, controlling the levers of State, and sabotaging much we hold dear.

We are in a new and final Battle of Britain, in effect a civil war. And if we lose, Britain is lost forever.

'BRAVEHEARTS IN BLACKSHIRTS'

By John Anderson

The British Union in Scotland Part II

Today, when reading books on the history of British Union one could be forgiven for thinking that the Blackshirts had been an exclusively English Movement concentrated predominately in the East End of London. However, from its very beginning the Movement had branches that covered the entire United Kingdom with Scotland providing Sir Oswald Mosley with many of his most loyal and active members.

BU POLICY

With the snows of winter still covering the Highlands the Chief Officer for Scotland, James Little continued to hold numerous engagements throughout the towns and villages located close to the English border. In January, at Kirkcubright Town Hall, he outlined British Union Policy on Scotland that covered every aspect of life in the country and included the following:

Mining - with British exports of coal falling by 50% between 1930 - 1934 the experiment in producing oil from coal would have secured the Scottish mining industry and elevate Britain's reliance on foreign oil imports.

Fishing - British Union policy of protecting Britain's resources for the home market would have seen foreign fishing fleets banned from her territorial waters and thus increase the demand for Scottish fishermen to supply the nation, and

Farming - for Britain's farmers to have exclusive right to the home market and to only permit the import of foreign goods when these items were unavailable from local producers.

It was shameful that during the 1930s Scotland imported more goods than it produced itself. Thus was born the policy of - 'Britain First, Empire Second and Foreign Nations Third'. This policy, if adopted, could have been the saviour of many Scottish communities and industries.

1935

SCOTLAND'S ADMINISTRATIVE REORGANISATION

January 1935 also saw a major change in the Movement's structure. In an effort to recognise the dedication and conspicuous service shown by the uniformed members the Leader announced 'The Next Stage in Fascism'. This would see the Movement divided into a separate Political and Blackshirt Organisation with OM as Leader of both. The Blackshirt uniform would now be reserved for those members who could - Give a minimum of two evening a week in the work of the Movement and also operate in a definite unit. Branches were to become a place of work and not to be used as social clubs. While finally, National Headquarters Inspectors would replace the Area Administration system.



IAN HOPE DUNDAS.

In February, to ascertain the extent of changes required the Chief of Staff, Ian Hope Dundas toured the Scottish branches. His subsequent report listed a number of modifications on how the BU in Scotland should operate. His recommendations included the following:

- Scottish Area Headquarters to be moved from Dalbeattie to Edinburgh;
- the Sub-Area system be replaced by a District Inspectorate; and
- the immediate training of additional quality local speakers.

These changes, once adopted, would rationalise the administration of the branches and reduce the number of visits required by the limited Staff Speakers of National Headquarters.

To implement the recommendations A.O. James Little estimated the Scottish Command would require a six-fold increase in their grant. Therefore, in March, a formal request for additional funding was sent to NHQ. However, with the Movements limited funds, the newly promoted Director of Blackshirt Organisation, Neil Francis-Hawkins had no option but to reject this request. Although, to assist the Scottish Officers begin the re-organisational process he authorised the temporary transfer

of Sub Commandant Captain Abbott to Edinburgh.

Captain George H R Abbott had served with distinction in the British Army. He had fought in France, during the Great War, where he had been severely injured by a shell that shattered his face. Later, in Ireland, while fighting the IRA he was shot and lost the use of his left arm. On joining the British Union he was appointed Area Organiser for Oxfordshire where he worked tirelessly for the Movement. In September 1934, during a sales drive in Oxford, several Communists viciously assaulted him. Unable to defend himself, due to his war injuries, he was brutally punched and kicked to ground. Fortunately, he was rescued by passers-by, which saved him from further injury. By January 1935, he had been appointed National Headquarters Inspecting Officer, with the rank of Sub Commandant, and posted to South Wales to commence that area's reorganisation. Completing this work within several weeks he received his new orders and moved onto Scotland.

CAPTAIN GEORGE H R ABBOTT
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS
INSPECTING OFFICER.

Captain Abbott acted quickly. He immediately oversaw the transfer of Scottish Headquarters from Dalbeattie to the former Women's Branch offices at 8 Hope Street, Edinburgh. He recommended and NHQ authorised, the promotion of John Montgomery, Dumfries and James Sutherland, Edinburgh both to the rank of District

NEIL FRANCIS-HAWKINS,
THE DIRECTOR OF
BLACKSHIRT
ORGANISATION STANDING
NEXT TO THE LEADER.

Officer. While to assist D.P.O. Bryham Oliver with propaganda, two new speakers from the Edinburgh Central Branch were discovered - George V E Budge and Alexander Young.

In recognition of their support, during the summer, twenty members of the Edinburgh Branch travelled to Newcastle where OM was holding a major National Meeting. The Leader specially honoured these Blackshirts, at the Newcastle branch offices, and assured them of his keen interest in the progress of the Movement in Scotland.

1936

NEW FORMATIONS

Following completion of the re-organisation to the Scottish Administration it was now time to expand the Movement throughout the region. The areas immediately identified for expansion where: Aberdeen, Bathgate and Perth - all had either been sub branches or groups during the early days.

During the spring of 1936, National Organising Officer W Lyall was dispatched north from Manchester where he had been heavily involved in the BU's Cotton Campaign. His new brief was to assist local members in re-organising their branches into districts. These districts would now correspond to parliamentary constituencies and would lay the path towards selecting candidates for future Government elections. Lyall would also, where no formation currently existed, help to build up a district by contacting local members and identify potential officers. Starting first in northern Scotland, he established himself



NO STRANGER TO SCOTLAND. FROM THE TIME OF THE NEW PARTY SIR OSWALD MOSLEY COULD ALWAYS COUNT ON A WARM WELCOME FROM THE WORKING CLASS PEOPLE NORTH OF THE BORDER.

in Aberdeen and quickly recruited Mr W K A J Chambers-Hunter as District Officer. Chambers-Hunter had lead a varied and exciting life. He had been a tea planter in Ceylon before serving with the Seaforth Highlanders during the Great War. In 1916 he was invalid out of the Army after he lost his right arm during fighting in France. After convalescing he went on to join the Colonial Office and served in West Africa. Here he successfully ran a number of plantations before eventually returning to Scotland, in the 1936, to manage the family estate at Tillery.



THE ONE ARMED DISTRICT OFFICER CHAMBERS HUNTER SELLING ACTION ON THE STREETS OF ABERDEEN

Also, in the spring of 1936, the Aberdeen Women's Section came under the command of Mrs A Botha. She had been born in South Africa and was the daughter-in-law of Louis Botha, South Africa's first Prime Minister. Furthermore, new district offices had been opened at 38 Union Street, Aberdeen and additional groups established in the surrounding towns of: Banchory, Dyce, Fraserburgh, Inverurie and Stonehaven. With DO Chambers-Hunter's weekly sales drives and propaganda tours the district membership quickly rose to almost 100 active and non-active members.

Perth had been operating as a group under Dundee's District Officer Simpson from early 1936. However, following a series of successful sales drives and a well attended meeting held by Staff Speaker Robert Sheville, BU membership in the town had increased sufficiently to justify the formation of a local district. Command of this latest formation was placed in the capable hands of Blackshirt Bamford from the Edinburgh Central District.

THE USHER HALL REVISITED

Between October 35 and April 36 the BU Propaganda Section had issued a series of applications to the City Treasure Committee of Edinburgh Town Council for Sir Oswald Mosley to hold a second public meeting in the Usher Hall. The Committee's continual refusal to grant a licence now forced a full Council meeting where their decision was finally overturned - OM was heading to Edinburgh again!

The date for the meeting was Friday, 14th May 1936, and Dick



DICK PLATHÉN.

Plathén was placed in command of its organisation. Although no longer National Meetings Organiser - this role had passed to Hector McKechnie in December - he was the obvious choice for such a prestigious event.

As with most national meetings requests were issued to surrounding districts for all available Blackshirts to attend and act as stewards. Thus on the night detachments from Aberdeen, Dundee, Glasgow and Perth where there; together with members from Carlisle, Berwick and even Newcastle - the Tynesiders joining the train taking OM and his escort party north. On arrival the Blackshirts formed up and marched the short distance from their headquarters in Hope Street to the Usher Hall. There the Edinburgh members took the 'place of honour' at the front of the hall together with the section from London, and towards the back the Aberdeen contingent where stationed. While positioned in the gallery the remaining units occupied the

aisles that ran towards a high balcony. In total around 2000 Blackshirts and members of the public were in attendance.

As Sir Oswald Mosley entered shouts of M-O-S-L-E-Y resounded around the hall, and once he had mounted the platform an almighty cheer went up that seemed to last for minutes. However, this euphoria was short lived, even before he had completed his opening remarks, demonstrators - located in the lower section - began to hurl abuse at the Leader. These communists appeared to be acting independently, but they had been placed strategically in the middle of packed rows to make it as difficult as possible for the stewards to tackle them. After being given a final warning by the speaker the order was issued for the stewards to remove the troublemakers. As the Blackshirts moved in they received numerous punches and kicks from small groups of communists that had been located close to their associates.

With the amount of violence coming from the communists it was now taking at least 3-4 stewards to escort each demonstrator safely out of the hall, and then hand them over to the waiting Police. However, on leaving the building and while attempting to reach the police lines the Blackshirts were caught in a hail of bricks and bottles - unleashed by a mob organised by the Trades and Labour Council and anti-fascists. This would have serious consequences for their comrades back inside the hall!

In the lower section the now much thinned ranks of stewards were augmented from Blackshirts which had been stationed in the gallery. This was the moment the communists had been waiting for! Like a pack of 'rabid dogs' they pounced on the remaining men, now outnumbered 10 to 1, and within seconds had rendered several Blackshirts unconscious - tossing them like 'rag dolls' across the rows of chairs towards the balcony. One young Blackshirt, badly beaten and bleeding, was then lifted and thrown over. Luckily, however, he managed to grab the top of the parapet and hung on for his life. At this very moment the returning stewards arrived. On seeing the danger they charged into communist thugs, and to the relief of the people below, hauled the young man to safety. They then set about clearing the gallery of the roughest elements, to the applause of an appreciative crowd that had come to hear the

TRIUMPH IN EDINBURGH

"RED-FRONT" THROWN OUT OF USHER HALL

They Came, They Howled and They Went

Oswald Mosley Applauded By Huge Scottish Audience

HEADLINES FROM THE BLACKSHIRT NEWSPAPER.

Leader. Two hours later the meeting ended with OM and his Blackshirts receiving a standing ovation from the audience - the Edinburgh people had clearly liked what they had seen and heard in the defence of free speech!

THE LEADER IN SCOTLAND

Sales Cup Presentation

LAST Sunday our Leader visited the Edinburgh District Headquarters, where he was greeted by a large gathering of members. Among those present were representatives of Aberdeen, Glasgow, Berwick, Dumfries and other Scottish Districts.



The presentation of the Sales Cup to Aberdeen District was greeted with applause for the honour that had been won for Scotland and as a token of admiration for the hard and determined fight that is being put up by D.O. Chambers-Hunter and his members to establish Fascism in Aberdeen.

PRESS REPORT IN THE WEEKLY BLACKSHIRT NEWSPAPER.

ABERDEEN - SALES CUP

By November, NOO Lyall had moved south to take up the temporary appointment of District Officer for the Bathgate District. Here he immediately secured the support of the NHQ Director of Propaganda who was

touring the north of England. Lyall arranged for him to meet with members of the local mining community and as a result won over a number of new recruits.

Finally, in December, the Leader arrived at Edinburgh District Headquarters to present DO Chambers-Hunter of Aberdeen with the British Union Sales Cup. This award was a remarkable achievement for his team as in

winning it they had beaten the previous winners - Westminster Abbey and Paddington South, two of London's largest districts. The Leader also took the opportunity to finalise the selection of Chambers-Hunter as Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for Aberdeen North in the next General Election. Before leaving, OM received a carved oak statue of himself created by the talented Edinburgh Blackshirt, John Smith. District Officer Thomson, who had replaced James Sutherland, following his promotion to District Inspector, presented the statue.

1937 EDINBURGH - PROPAGANDA

By the spring of 1937, the Edinburgh Speakers School had produced a number of competent public speakers. They included Blackshirts: Bamford, Bowie, Brown, Morrison, Regan and Todd, together with Unit Leaders Geddes and Young.

On completion of their speaker's course each attendee would receive a personal BU Speakers Certificate that was signed by the Director of Propaganda. Then following its registration the Propaganda Administrator would issue or update the individual Speakers Warrant Card. These cards identified the grade the Blackshirt had achieved and also listed to the type of meetings he could hold. The grades ranged from an 8, which permitted the

holder to address Ordinary Public Meeting, to a grade 1, the highest grade, authorising the member to address National Indoor Meetings.

The Leader arrived in Edinburgh, late September, to meet his new Scottish Speakers. Here he thanked each member personally, expressing his appreciation for their steady work and loyalty to the Movement.

With his new group of speakers, Dick Plathen now began a major propaganda campaign across the streets of Edinburgh. From Charlotte Street in the west to Jeffery Street in the east the Blackshirts addressed countless meetings to ever greater and more enthusiastic crowds.



RAVEN THOMSON, EDITOR OF ACTION AND DIRECTOR OF POLICY CONDUCTING A NORTHERN SPEAKERS CLASS.

STREET BATTLES

To capitalise on the public's growing interest for British Union's policies and to raise the Movement's profile even higher, Dick Plathen and Alexander Young announced their candidature for the November 1937, Edinburgh Local Council Elections. Plathen would stand at St Giles while Young was nominated for the Canongate District. In these two wards the Edinburgh Blackshirts had thrown down the gauntlet to their opponents. With shouts of 'drive the Blackshirts off the streets' the 'Red Front' immediately began to gather their forces.

The campaign commenced with a meeting at Parliament Square on 14 October. N/I Dick Plathen and a small band of Blackshirts including: Bowie, Dray, Geddes, Todd and Young arrived at the designated time - the National Inspector giving a stirring speech to the assembled crowd.

On finishing, cries of "Smash the Fascists" erupted from a section of around 200 'Reds' that now began to stalk the Blackshirts back to their headquarters. As Plathen and his group moved down the Mound, the mob rushed

forward punching one of the Blackshirts in the back of the head - causing him to fall semi-unconscious to the ground. They then focused their attention on Dick Plathen, but the Blackshirt and New Party veteran was more than a match for these thugs. In a scene reminiscent of Tommy Moran's famous one-man battle at The Royal Mint, he held back the 'Reds' while other Blackshirts rescued their stricken comrade. Dray and Bowie then gallantly came to aid Dick Plathen, and in the resulting melee both Dray and Bowie were arrested along with four communists - the banning of the BU uniform now making the identification of assailant and

victim almost impossible. Undaunted, that very evening the same BU members were on Princes Street selling The Blackshirt and Action newspapers.

Philip Dray and John Bowie would later appear in front of the Edinburgh Sheriff charged with forming part of a disorderly crowd - both would be acquitted.

FINAL ELECTION RESULTS

Vowing that no Blackshirts could stand for election in Edinburgh, Mosley's men had risen to the challenge. When the results were announced it was found that almost 100 residents from St Giles and Canongate had voted British Union - quite remarkable considering at this time no members had been recruited within these districts!

LEADER CONFERENCE

The winter of 1937 ended with the promotion of DO Chambers-Hunter to the rank of District Inspector with responsibility for the whole northeast and northwest of Scotland. In the east units were formed in Ellom, Fintray, and Inverurie; while in the west the groups in Dyce and Frazerburgh now came under his command.

In addition, and in recognition for his loyalty and dedication to the Movement, at the December Leaders Conference held in Edinburgh, Chambers-Hunter received the coveted Gold Award for service to British Union. Also at this gathering the West Edinburgh District officers - District Treasurer J A MacDonald and Assistant District Leader C Finucane received the Bronze Award for their outstanding service.

1938 - 1940

ABERDEEN TAKES THE LEAD

Working out of their headquarters in Union Street, the Aberdeen district under the command of Chambers-Hunter and his 'Action Teams', began a series of propaganda tours and sales drives across the north-east of Scotland. Membership was reasonably steady with around 100 active and non-active Blackshirts in Aberdeen and a similar number located in the surrounding towns of the Inspectorate. In addition, the Aberdeen District had formed a cadet section under the command of Cadet Leader S Stephens.

March saw, Wilfred Risdon, Chief Agent for British Union hold a very successful meeting in the Music Hall, Aberdeen. To a packed audience he described in great detail the Movement's policies and the far reaching strategy for putting Britain 'back on its feet' (see Mosley's Ten Points). Outside the 'usual suspects' were lying in wait to attack any lone Blackshirts or small party of supporters that they could lay their hands on. As the senior officers; 'Bill' Risdon, Dick Plathen, Chambers-hunter and Mrs Botha left the hall and walked towards their waiting car, the mob charged forward throwing a series of kicks and punches. As usual the communists paid particular attention to Chambers-Hunter and Mrs Botha. For weeks previous they had been subjected to constant abuse and physical violence for their high profile support for British Union. Mrs Botha had had her arm slashed with a bottle while Chambers-Hunter had received a server gash to head from a brick thrown at him when he addressed a meeting in Torry.

Their work and commitment, however, had paid off. The Aberdeen District by this stage was consistently winning the monthly Sales League for the Scottish Districts, although both Edinburgh West and Perth hotly contested their position.



WILFRED RISDON, CHIEF AGENT FOR BRITISH UNION.

NATIONAL INSPECTORS

To be appointed a National Inspector of British Union was to attain one of the most prestigious posts within the Movement, but it also meant committing almost every waking moment to the cause.

Holding the rank of Staff Officer 2 the duties of the National Inspector were critical to the maintenance and advancement of the organisation as listed below:

1. To see that instructions, orders and methods of work make for efficiency, uniformity and economy.
2. To test the capacity of members to act as instructors and leaders.
3. To assist D.O.s, formations and unit leaders in securing the efficiency of their work.
4. To keep the Director-General of Organisation or his assistants informed on all points connected with the discipline of the Movement.
5. To bring to the notice of the Director-General of Organisation points where instructions have been overlooked or require amending.

6. To report to the D.G.O. in accordance with the instructions issued to them by him.



DISTRICT OFFICER JAMES SUTHERLAND

EPILOGUE

7. To visit localities uncovered by Fascist organisation and to enrol members for the purpose of creating District Formations.

Each National Inspector was required to draw-up a programme of inspection directly with his District Officers. After inspecting a formation he was to submit a confidential report to the Director-General recording the units average weekly sales; number of recruits since last inspection; number of meeting held, both local and national; the financial position; an assessment on the local officers and premises. Finally, he would complete his return with any

remarks or recommendations he thought appropriate.

As a salaried employee of the Movement all National Inspectors were entitled to claim a number of allowances and expenses including all official telephone calls, postage and telegrams; subsistence, travel and petrol allowance.

Following the engagement of Dick Plathen to Marie Inglis (Women's District Leader for West Edinburgh), Plathen announced that he would be resigning from his role as National Inspector and returning to a commercial life. It was a great loss to the Movement but his obvious replacement was Mr W K A J Chambers-Hunter. And in the summer of 1938 he was duly appointed Acting National Inspector for Scotland and the North East. This was to be the last major re-organisation in Scotland.

The Movement continued until June 1940 when the Authorities placed a nation-wide ban on the party, thus making membership illegal. But by then the war had already taken its toll. Throughout 1939 and early 1940 many of the District Officials and members had enlisted in the Armed Services to 'Fight for King and Country'. While those that remained, like many of their comrades in England and Wales, were branded traitors with several eventually being arrested and interned under the new Defence Regulation 18B.

So ends this brief history of the men and women who joined the British Union in Scotland - **true Scots... true Patriots... and true Blackshirts all!**



SEEN ON A SCOTTISH ROOF AND BARNYARD DOOR.

Following the much appreciated serialisation of *How the B.U.F. came to Geordieland*, the Editor of *Comrade* suggested to D. Day Paratrooper Robert Richards that he may like to write about his drop into Normandy and subsequent war behind enemy lines. Despite initial reluctance, he finally agreed. We are proud to publish this first hand account of a brave man who fought politically to stop the Brothers' war but was prepared to take up arms once war was declared.

A BLACKSHIRT IN NORMANDY

It was 1am, 6th June 1944, when our aircraft crossed the Normandy coastline. This was 30 minutes after the special glider-borne troops had gone-in to capture the two bridges over the Caen Canal and River Orne. The flak was bursting; the aircraft was weaving; a near limit blustery wind had risen. Weaving had to stop for the final run-in and the engines throttled-back to near stalling speed "for us to jump at 500ft". The exit from the Stirling aircraft was a large hole in the floor of the fuselage. As you progress down the aircraft you feel the air rushing through the aircraft and the feeling that you are still running when you find nothing below your feet, just a blackness – you're out! You have no sense of falling, suddenly a massive tug on the whole of the torso, at the same time you hear the familiar sound of your 'chute' opening and you involuntarily utter – 'Amen'.

There you are in utter silence. Except for the faint sound of the aircraft in the distance. You look around for recognisable features as per the enormous floor model you had been peering at for the previous 48 hours. You can distinguish nothing, not even the chalk-pit where out rendezvous was to be. Where is 'mother-earth'? – There it is!, feet and knees together! – bump! I've made it! I'm covered in rigging lines, almost netted! – where's my fighting-knife? I'll need to cut myself out of this lot! Automatically however, without thinking, I'm going through the landing drill – the hand just went straight to the quick-release on the chest: 'twist-thump' – and the whole harness flies off and, in my case of course, so went the entangling rigging lines – crisis over!

Next, haul-in the kit-bag, get myself armed and the rest of the battle-kit; divest myself of the jumping smock, on goes my webbing. I'm ready! Only 4 minutes had elapsed since leaving the aircraft – much too slow! Figures were now beginning to loom all around, some moving with little concern whilst others were ultra-cautious, exchanging pass-words. In fact those first few minutes in Normandy seemed little different to many of the exercises we had done on Salisbury Plain.

MEETING UP

In the final briefing before emplaning we knew exactly where the Platoon's position would be, fortunately this was no more than 600 yards away. We were greeted by a very relieved Platoon Officer. With our arrival the Platoon strength doubled. In fact little more than 60% of the Platoon went into action during

those first hours in Normandy.

The news however, that the two Bridges were already captured and, that they were intact, was a terrific boost!

The 12th Yorks and the 13th Lancs has the task of perimeter defence on the East of the Bridges. The 7th Somerset task, together with the special glider-borne troops (who had captured the Bridges) were responsible for the perimeter defences on the West side.

The first job was to dig-in. This meant two men working together and preparing a slit-trench to hold them both. The deeper the better – at least 3 feet in depth.

We knew that sea-borne British troops were scheduled to come ashore on 'Sword Beach' at 7.00am, the landings would be preceded by a naval bombardment not only on the enemy beach – defences but also inland on Caen which lay a few miles to our South. This meant that the 5th Parachute Brigade's perimeter defensive position lay midway between the two target areas.

This though increased our incentive to dig, to dig furiously. Although aware of the imminent bombardment when, suddenly, it commenced it was awesome.

This was something very, very, different. I observed previously that the shells 'whistled' overhead. This now was a storm of huge naval shells arc-ing overhead at a much greater height and 'shrieking, endlessly shrieking'. Although miles from the target areas the very ground shook and vibrated beneath us.

ADDITIONAL FORCES

At 6.00pm we detected the steady and distant sound of heavy aircraft approaching. We knew what this meant. The Divisional

Air landing Brigade was on its way' right-on-time!

What a sight! On both sides of the River and Canal came wave after wave of four engine aircraft each towing a huge glider. The glider wing-span equalled that of its tug.

The sight of this huge armada coming in, wave after wave, is almost indescribable because of the depth of emotion involved. The division had been battling for almost 18 hours. Everyone still surviving was very conscious of how light was our initial armament. Now here was our much heavier equipment arriving in broad day-light wave after wave. And as each glider cast-off from its tug and came gliding down onto that same dropping zone that we ourselves had dropped on in darkness the great spirals of the gliders, the climbing of the tugs; 4 engines roaring in acceleration, is a memory that will be forever imprinted emotionally. The feeling was more of pride rather than relief.

Brigadier Lord Lovat's Commando Brigade had made its planned lightening-swoop from its Sword Beach Landing, and joined up with the 6th Airborne Division at lunchtime. The Divisional Air landing Brigade had arrived 'on-the-dot', in time for dinner. The perimeter around the Bridges had held off 8 attacks from armour and infantry.

The only opportunity given to me to open fire was when an enemy fighter-bomber flew in low to drop a 1000lbs on the Canal Bridge which he hit – smack-on! How do we know it was 1000lbs? It hit the Bridge, but didn't explode! Now I wonder: why didn't it explode? Had it been sabotaged? Or did my shot damage something I'll never know. It was not uncommon for bomb-detonation mechanisms to fail. But its exciting to think I may have contributed, even if no one else thinks so. But weren't we lucky a direct hit! It would have been quite a 'blot' on our Divisional history of 'D-Day', had it exploded.

As darkness fell a message was being passed around our cross-road position that sometime during darkness the R.U.R. Battalion (Air Landing Brigade)

would be passing through our position, heading South for the village of Longueval about 1 mile away.

We felt good about this, because that was the direction from which our part of the perimeter had been attacked earlier in the day. The defences would now be deepened to the South.

During the night we were subject to desultory mortaring and shelling. Interrupting, from time-to-time, brief snatches of 'shut-eye'. When, however, we began hearing the sound and movement of armoured vehicles to the South everyone 'came-to'. Tired eyes peering into darkness can be subject to a certain amount of hallucinations. Each Section Leader was equipped with a pair of night field glasses. After a couple of false sightings in my section – which were two too many. I ordered: 'The next report will be investigated personally by the reported!'. There were no more reports; although the sound of vehicle movement to our front continued. It was concluded that an attack was being prepared either against Longueval, or ourselves or both! Yes, 7th June could see a big one.

The 7th June dawned at about 3.30am. There was no dawn chorus, other than distant artillery fire to the West. That would be the break-out from the Beach Head and the beginning of the battle for Caen which lay about 6 miles to our South-South West ... 5.00am ... 6.00am ... all quiet 7.00am mortaring to the West of the Bridges started. To the South we could hear both mortaring and machine-gun firing. That, we guessed, would be Longueval. Orders were not needed for everyone to start checking arms and ammo. Digging more earth out of the bottom of the slit-trenches; firming down hard, the spoil around the top of the slit trench. Every pair of eyes peering constantly to the front arc-of-vision. Fearless eyes.

ATTACK

News had come to us that during the attack the previous day one MK IV enemy tank had broken through to Ranville. This was where the Divisional Headquarters had been set-up. Needless to say the MK IV had been 'barbecued' before doing any serious damage.

9.00am mortar bombs began falling around our position.

It was not long before we realised we were taking casualties in the Platoon. The enemy mortar attack has a unique sound of its own, referred to as: 'moaning minis'. This is due to them being in batteries of 4. How many of these batteries were being employed in this attack I don't know, but the 'moaning' sound after the first salvo was obliterated by the constant and continuous sound of the exploding bombs in our position.

The casualties seemed to be occurring in the Section on the opposite side of the road to us. That side of the road was a rising wooded hillside. The Section was well dug into a position which over-looked my Section by several feet. An excellent fire-position. But proved to be lethal under mortar-bomb attack. The bombs were being exploded in the tree-branches and the shrapnel was being showered down into the slit-trenches.

The mortaring continued – but? Just-a-minute that's machine-gun fire! Whipping and whistling through our position! – like a vast hail-storm! There's no question now they're attempting to break-through our position. What shall we get? Tanks; self-propelled guns; infantry? If it goes to pattern – the lot! But we were prepared. Everyman had the means of preparing a gammon-bomb which could knock the tracks off an armoured vehicle; a hand-grenade through the gun aperture would not be very well received by the crew! Also there was a Royal Artillery crew with a six-pounder anti-tank gun in our position. The big question was how many of us would survive such a ferocious attack?

SURVIVAL

The mortaring ceased, machine-gun bullets were still whistling. With the mortaring stopping that meant enemy armour and men were close – how close? The bullets were lessening – a strongly accented Yorkshire voice called from my right 'What do we do now Sarge?' I recognised, like one recognises a rhapsody, that voice, the Bren-gunner, alive and ready to go. 'Stay-down', I replied and asked: 'Is the Bren o.k?' – 'Aye' ... 'Nowt wrang wit' gun', sounding rather reproachful, probably thinking that perhaps I should have enquired how he was. Little did he realise how happy and relieved I was to know, right at that moment, that at least four of us had survived, as well as the Section Bren-gun.

But, first, I thought, 'let me have a look'; all firing had stopped and, I could hear voices in my

Section position to my left. I knew that more of my Section had survived. Peering cautiously over the lip of my slit-trench, I could not believe the sight! 250 yards ahead of our position. Moving from left-to-right, an enemy column comprising: a tank in the lead, a self-propelled gun and, what I estimated at being about a platoon strength unit of Panzer grenadiers. All moving cautiously, in the open, left-to-right. My disbelief was at being presented with such a classic text-book target! It's only supposed to happen in text-books. A target for enfilading fire!

Almost simultaneously the six-pounder opened fire. By this time a third armoured vehicle had hove into sight followed by more grenadiers on foot. We continued firing and the six-pounder let off another round. In a matter of minutes three enemy armoured vehicles went up in flames and there was no sign of enemy infantry. The golden corn was standing high and hid whatever casualties they must have assuredly taken.

We were later to learn that this attack had been mounted by the 125 Panzer Grenadier Regiment who had committed Seven MK IV tanks and some 150 Grenadiers. It is of interest to mention that among the casualties sustained in our Platoon position, were the whole Royal Artillery Anti-Tank crew. They were killed during the machine-gun attack, having survived the mortaring.

They had spotted the enemy armour moving-in and endeavoured to bring their gun onto action.

Noticing what had happened, one of our troopers, himself having been in the Royal Armoured Corps before transferring to the Parachute Regiment, and not relishing the idea of tackling a tank a close quarters, seeing a good artillery piece and a load of ammo. idly lying by, decided to do something about what was looking like an uneven situation. He crawled across the road, which was still under a hail of machine gun fire, manned the Anti-Tank gun, alone, loaded it, aimed and fired. His first shot put his target tank up-in-flames. He swivelled and re-sighted the A/T. gun, aimed and fired – a second enemy tank went up-in-flames. By this time our Battalion Mortars were in action – one of their bombs sent a third MKIV enemy tank up-in-flames. All this action was coinciding with what was left of the Platoon's fighting strength: two Bren guns and twelve riflemen, also three sten guns, should the enemy get

closer. The hyper-rapid small-arms fire caused havoc among the cautiously moving enemy grenadiers.

After such a ferocious preparatory bombardment which had lasted for almost an hour and taken a heavy toll on our already weakened Platoon, the actual attempt to penetrate our perimeter defensive position lasted little more than 15 minutes before fizzling-out! The enemy stopped advancing, and withdrew!

At the time we were a little-puzzled. Nevertheless, very relieved. We knew just how close the enemy had been to over-running our position.

A Distinguished Conduct Medal (D.C.M) was recommended for L/Cpl. Hall for his heroic and highly skilled performance as an impromptu anti-tank gunner. In the first list of awards published in August, 1944, he received the Military Medal (M.M).

FRIENDLY FIRE

However, the danger still persisted. About 10 minutes after we had come to the realisation that the enemy had really withdrawn, mortar bombs were again falling around the position. The mortaring was not of the intensity pre-attacked, also the bombs seemed rather smaller! – just-a-minute. They're coming from behind unbelievable? – 'friendly fire! For some inexplicable reason it was assumed that we could not have survived such a heavy bombardment and the weight of armour that had been spotted moving-in. The, admittedly, rather sudden cessation of machine gun and small-arms fire contributed to this very erroneous conclusion that: our position had been over-run and occupied by the enemy.

Our mortars were putting down what they blissfully described as: 'S.O.S. fire' The theory being that it would keep enemy heads down, thereby enabling possible survivors to escape. 'S.O.S.' It is unrepeatable to quote in writing what was said later when the survivors of No.1 Platoon had an opportunity to exchange words. Happily, no casualties occurred in this particular incident, but the Platoon Officer himself came very close. He had vacated his slit-trench as had many of us at that point-in-time, his intention being to walk around the position to ascertain how everyone had fared. As the first of the 'friendly-bomb' had exploded alongside. He would certainly have been another casualty.

It was clearly a case of communication – or rather: lack of it. By-and-large wireless communications at Platoon levels

did not exist. Much of the Brigade's original wireless equipment had been lost in the 'drop', and replacements had not yet come through. In this particular instance a 'runner' had to be sent back about 300 yards to where the Mortar was situated. They, being in wireless contact, were able to call the: 'cease fire'. It was subsequently claimed: 'that the runner wearing full battle kit and carrying arms and ammo, could not have been overtaken by an athlete wearing spiked-shoes! (Many of us thought that he too had earned a medal of some sort). And so ended No. 1 Platoon's first direct enemy attack.

TO BE CONCLUDED.

KATYN

DID THEY NOT KNOW, OR NOT CARE?

Following the appalling silence in Britain over fixing the guilt for the Katyn massacre, an old cutting comes to hand as one more indictment of the British left, this time from the years following the Hungarian uprising.

The Daily Telegraph (28-12-81) quoted a Mr Paul Gorka, then vice-chairman of the Hungarian Freedom Fighters' Association, who said he "was convinced that we were betrayed by British Communist sympathisers and fellow travellers like Philby, Burgess, Maclean, and the others".

Mr Gorka was arrested and tortured several times in a grim prison in Budapest. In 1950 he was sentenced to fifteen years in prison. A naval officer in the same prison block as Mr Gorka, awaiting execution, said that they had been betrayed at a high level by British intelligence. There was not time to find who that betrayer was, before the officer was executed.

After Stalin's death, conditions in the prison improved. Instead of addressing the prisoners as 'Fascist Pigs', the guards addressed them as 'gentlemen'. When the uprising came, a captured Russian tank burst through the walls, and the captives swarmed out, sweeping the guards aside.

Mr Gorka's Association has found many cases of betrayal by western sources, and evidence of forty-two executions. He says 'Perhaps those few British moles, some of them possibly members of the Cambridge Apostles, did not realise the enormity of what they were doing'. How could they really have been so naïve?

Did they not know, or not care?

W.H.

BOOK REVIEWS



Mosley

This booklet adds little of value to the existing literature. It uses mostly a few well known secondary sources –

OM, Lord Ravensdale, Harold Nicolson, etc. The author's dismissal of Mosley as an adapter of other people's work rather than an original thinker more accurately applies to his own offering. One blatant "rehash" example is his passage about racing-car and flying supporters on p.87 compared with Prof. Skidelsky's previous account on p.320 of *Oswald Mosley* [3rd edn. 1990].

Evidently, Mr Jones disdained research into all the abundant primary documentation. Substantial, often relatively recent, information by both supporters and opponents is overlooked. Instead, this "historian and journalist" acknowledges "insights" from the likes of Frederic Mullally, David Pryce-Jones, Francis Beckett, and Hugh Purcell (whose earlier contribution to this subject contained gross errors).

He has to admit, on inescapable evidence, that Mosley was "idealistic, interested in ideas, courageous, energetic and moved by the waste and suffering caused by war and unemployment" – precisely the characteristics that drove him towards "fascism" and, no less so, towards his painstaking post-war "comeback". Nevertheless, this writer's personal contribution seems to consist of meagre but unpleasant tidbits, plus twists and turns of writing that tend cumulatively to caricature OM, a "feral child in a feudal environment" who entered Labour politics in an attempt to "silence critics of his frivolous lifestyle"; a "playboy" also addicted to the "enjoyment of violence". The adjectives "louche" and "cruel" come in so handy that one wonders how this "biographer" would cope with the other assorted "alpha politicians" who privately disregarded the bourgeois sobrieties – Lord Palmerston, Joseph Stalin, or Jack Kennedy, to select a few.

He describes both Oswald Mosley and John Strachey as "coldly" rational in their politics, whereas the latter's attack on his old friend in *Menace of Fascism* highlights the respective emotions behind their

divergence, the former's passionate commitment to helping the poor and workless he had personally met around Britain, and the other's sympathy for victims of Nazi violence he had to read about in Germany (rather than those of communist violence in Russia). A picture of the two men together when partners foretells another story – an upright and vigorous Mosley stands beside a soft and weedy Strachey, the future architect of the Europe-Africa "vision-splendid" next to the eventual schemer of an "African groundnut" fiasco.

One minor but indicative example of this writer's subjective "inferences" is his unfounded claim that Mosley found marching "painful" and somehow contrived to conceal a slight post-operative limp from his fascist followers, if not his female admirers – despite the fact that the reason for this supposedly "humiliating handicap" was widely circulated by the Action Press publication *Portrait of a Leader*, which incidentally quotes the distinguished surgeon's declaration that "Mosley was the bravest man he had ever met".

Mosley's "fascism" was the product not of an evil egotism but of an expectation of early economic collapse or ultimate world war, and the urgent need to prepare an alternative in either event to communism. As usual, the policy details and ideological background are superficial – Mr Jones even calls Oswald Spengler a "19th-century" thinker! And Raven Thomson's graduate prose may occasionally have been boring but never bombastic.

During the four decades before Mosley died, he certainly never lost his "loyalty and affection for his native land" [pp. 145-6]. Quite the contrary, as his opposition to multi-cultural mass-immigration itself alone demonstrates. He wrote continually for British publications, and kept in constant contact by prolonged telephone calls, or return visits, whenever in

France, Ireland or other European countries. He repeatedly campaigned in his beloved homeland over long periods and, whenever free speech was denied in public meeting places, he used his time in further writing for English outlets or for meeting important people. The "exile" legend is just another smear.

Another prejudicial suggestion [p.144] is that the Mosleys were not "particularly affected" by the "emaciated victims" in Nazi

camp. Now let us get this straight once and for all. Mosley consistently condemned concentration-camp atrocities and in 1961 published a profound and balanced indictment of Hitler's treatment of the Jews. He also reasonably argued that the entire question of any such crimes on all sides, including incessant civilian bombing, should be thoroughly assessed by independent and neutral investigators. Aware of proven propaganda lies against Germany during the first war, and against National Socialism in peacetime, he was entitled to suspect the motivation of Soviet and American allegations in the immediate aftermath of their victory. Was he not right and courageous to plead for fair treatment of the "ordinary, the poor, the humble, the suffering" in occupied Germany who themselves had many "living skeletons" (Victor Gollancz's observation) and who had nothing to do with vile actions in the "dark privacy" of the camps? Now some initial scepticism appears vindicated – Belsen, for example, never had any "gas chambers" whatever, and various technical questions raised about this "industrialised mass-murder" system elsewhere still await satisfactory answers instead of silence or suppression.

And how many of Mosley's vocal and often violent enemies were "affected" by the pre-war man-made famine, typhus epidemics and mass executions in Soviet Ukraine, much of which became (according to the historian Dr Robert Conquest) "one vast Belsen", or the "emaciated" Polish children exchanged for British oil during the war, or the tortures in Red China, Castro Cuba, and so on?

What more could yet another Mosley Biography tell us? The answer is simple. Mosley was a man of ideas, not only a gifted orator but also a prolific writer on many subjects – from tax reform to German philosophy. We need a good book about his books, and still more a discussion of his innumerable articles, which presented constructive answers to many problems of our time in economics, defence, foreign policy and much more, in his uniquely clear, incisive and sparkling style. This is done at length for other political writers, but avoided only in Mosley's case.

BBC and media conspiracies to excuse, or vilify, him and his ideas from 1931 onwards are briefly indicated even by Mr Jones, who seems nevertheless to ignore Michael Quill's convenient collection of

Mosley's writings.

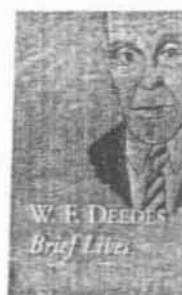
The problem for Mosley's opponents long after his death is that he will be "proved right" after all, while they and their "system" will be shown up for what they are – responsible for a national and international mess on a giant scale. It suits this third-rate political class, and its financial fundmeisters, to portray this great man, if mentioned at all, merely as a rich, rude, rough, totally nasty piece of work, still a dangerous bogeyman to frighten anyone independent enough to think for themselves and search his writings for ideas and inspiration to help our people out of the swamp.

Only some nicely printed illustrations in this "long-overdue book" provide any fresh interest, though the picture of Mosley looking at a railing spike – one of many weapons used by "innocent hecklers" – is not explained for readers, and the caption for his mammoth meeting at Earls Court puts the date back by three years. A detailed page-after-page critique of this booklet could be written, but it is hardly worth the trouble.

Charles Winter

Mosley

By Nigel Jones
Haus Publishing
ISBN: 1904347098
£9.99.



W.F. Deedes, 'Dear Bill' to his Friends, now in his nineties gives some short, sharp snapshots of headliners diverse as Baldwin,

Butler, Marcos, Thatcher, Montgomery and Whitehouse. Included are ten pages on Mosley. A mixture of personal memories dating from October 1936 to the 1970s together with a dive into the press cuttings to flesh out and spice up the chapter. Mr Deedes is not a vindictive man and does give a reasonably fair portrait. He even allows himself, with the odd caveat to ponder how Mosley might have been Prime Minister. Sentiments expressed so many times in print that the real pity is that the movers and shakers of the time did not back Mosley when it mattered.

F.C.

Brief Lives

By W.F. Deedes
Published by Macmillan
ISBN: 1405040858
£12.99



This big book, mostly about several centuries of protest and rebellion in our country's capital, comes from an expert on

Gothic horror "literature" at Middlesex University. And like the rabbi's proverbial pork pie, parts of it are interesting.

Prof. Bloom reveals, for example, that the Bank of England's establishment in the City from 1694 created "a new world of international money" distrusted by ordinary people, with critics complaining that immigrants did well out of it, "especially those Huguenot, Spanish Jews and Dutch merchants, thirty of whom were represented in 1709 as stockholders".

He writes at length on Communist and anarchist terrorism, from the turn of the century down to recent years of scum like the Angry Brigade. Among the worst types were asylum seekers from Tsarist Russia, some of whom sent the proceeds of their robberies to fellow-gangsters led by Lenin. Readers may well be intrigued by the aliases and hide-outs used by these murderous criminals, such as Jakob Peters aka Colven aka Svornoff - who eventually returned "home" to help run the Bolshevik secret police.

MOSLEY NOT MARX

It becomes clear all along that various Marxists have been the worst instigators of political violence in England, especially against anyone daring to challenge them in public - above all Mosley, the "master of the mass meeting" who "for over thirty years remained London's leading street orator ... at home among the disenchanted indigenous white working class of the old East End" and always loyally recognised as "one of their own".

The writer quotes the admission by the Communist Party manifesto *For Soviet Britain* that it could never win a free election to Parliament, requiring instead its "forceful" overthrow, while simultaneously defaming fascism as a monopoly capitalist "weapon" against the workers. The author notes that this alien conspiracy to organise insurrection and impose a brutal dictatorship was always surreptitiously funded by Moscow and abetted by dedicated secret agents, unknown to CPGB rank-and-file but cunningly infiltrated into important positions.

In face of abundant evidence,

inter-war concern about links between "red revolution" and certain immigrants can no longer be dismissed as paranoid prejudice.

The 1929 Wall Street crash triggered a drop in European industrial activity and trade by almost a third in two years. It was necessary both to protect this nation, and others, against chaos and foreign subversion, and to implement social reform programmes at once compassionate and realistically effective.

This explains the emergence of British Union, whose membership initially outstripped and so alarmed the communists that they organised one futile attempt after another to suppress free speech, whether by "spitting obscenities" at women members or "see a fascist, bash him". If a policeman pulled a baton at their illegally armed "counter-demonstrations", he risked being torn to pieces (Phil Piratin, quoted p.332). The author confirms that "Cable Street" was a short-lived mob-attack on brave bobbies rather than a battle with blackshirts and the "victory" was "purely mythic".

British Union, of course, carried on with successful, often quite undisturbed meetings and marches in London and nationwide.

BLOOMERS

Prof. Bloom's questionable points include the suggestion that the Krays supported the BUF, and that Mosley got the idea of the Thought-Deed Statesman from "occult philosophy" instead of his own political experiences and his study of great achievers like Caesar, Chatham and Rhodes. The writer also claims that Paul Hamlyn, the publisher, withdrew support from Mosley after he was funded by others "more overtly anti-Semitic" like Lord Nuffield, who surely escapes that description.

It is worse nonsense to suggest that if war had been averted and Mosley voted into power, he could have been "pressured" by insignificant crackpots like the "anti-semitic camel doctor" Arnold Leese into opening "extermination camps" - or into joining a German military invasion of Russia, both actions completely contrary to his policy and personality. The former long-standing problem would have been solved by internationally guaranteed Jewish access to the Holy Places, plus gradual resettlement from eastern Europe into a large, fertile, temperate and relatively unpopulated region in Africa under their own sovereignty.

There would have been neither a

wartime "holocaust" nor the continual carnage in the Middle East.

Prof. Bloom comes closer to the truth when he writes: "Mosley was enthused with a vision of a new Britain, with first and foremost a return to full employment and an end to industrial decline". He had "no intention of acting as an agent for Hitler" and "felt the future of Britain was embodied in his own personality". In short, Mosley was "a patriot".

LONDON'S IMMIGRATION

MISERY

When this "gothic fiction" expert gets on to Mosley's irrepressible comeback, however, he slips up again. Raven Thomson, for instance, never "took over" Union Movement's "leadership". Nor did Mosley encourage "anti-black hate" - which is no way to describe his opposition, from the outset, to the exploitation of cheap labour from the tropics. His critics must take responsibility for repopulating our ancient cities with third-world communities of different loyalties and incompatible religions. And where was hatred or "racism" in restoring West Indian prosperity, or in preventing - through Europe-Africa - the disease, starvation and genocide that is the legacy solely of his hypocritical enemies?

Mosley had nothing to do with the Notting Hill riots or the "death of Kelso Cochrane", but obviously could hardly be expected to close down the North Kensington branch the very moment his "jobs in Jamaica" and "votes not violence" became locally popular. These policies would not have prevented the far worse crime, disorder and dope-trade at subsequent Notting Hill "carnivals", or Brixton "uprising", never mind all the rapping, mugging, steaming, stabbing and shooting that exemplify our modern "multi-cultural society".

"What added to problems was that immigrant groups were seen as an intrusion into a settled community", writes Prof. Bloom. He quotes a Metropolitan Commissioner on Afro-Caribbean youths who engineer "confrontations" with policeman, and on the "priority to restore order in such areas". But that was over 20 years ago - before the police were used to impose a "diversity agenda" on our increasingly crime and vice-ridden nation, now also beset with needlessly imported "holy warriors" from the House of Islam.

Notwithstanding various mistakes, the author deserves thanks for saying: "Mosley was always attracted to Parliamentary politics

and reasoned argument. He was an Englishman steeped in the traditions of the English and looked back to his family's origins in the Tudor Period ... the quintessence of the English spirit".

Despite scattered, sometimes amusing inaccuracies, though also serious accusations - such as Column 88 being set up with government security-service help - this volume may entertain some *Comrade* subscribers. Its photos of a Mosley march and Jeffrey Hamm, provided by (wait for it) *Searchlight* magazine, are actually not bad, and anyway you could always use this weighty tome as a doorstop.

Jennifer Cochrane

Violent London

by Clive Bloom

Published by Sidgwick and Jackson

ISBN 0-283-07310-1

£18.99

PULITZER PULLS

ITS PUNCHES

In 1932, the American Pulitzer Prize was awarded to Walter Duranty, a British foreign correspondent and slavish apologist for Joseph Stalin.

Recently a campaign was launched to strip him of this prestigious prize on the basis of his suppressing the story of the Ukrainian famine that took seven million lives.

After a review, the Pulitzer Committee decided he could keep the award as "no convincing evidence of deliberate deception existed".

What constitutes evidence?

The ever increasing flow of hard facts emerging from Soviet innermost archives. Contemporary journalists knowing him to be a liar. Even the New York Times, his one time employer, called for his award to be rescinded.

Just recall this story when the next Pulitzer Prize is awarded.

What is its real worth?

Honest Truth

A well-established fact was the amount of time Mosley devoted to questions at his public meetings. During one such session he was asked:

"What is your definition of politics?"

Sir Oswald replied, "Personally I always prefer the simple statement, 'the art of human happiness'. It is an art of which we must all devote ourselves in an effort to practice it with more success than in recent times."

TELEVIEW

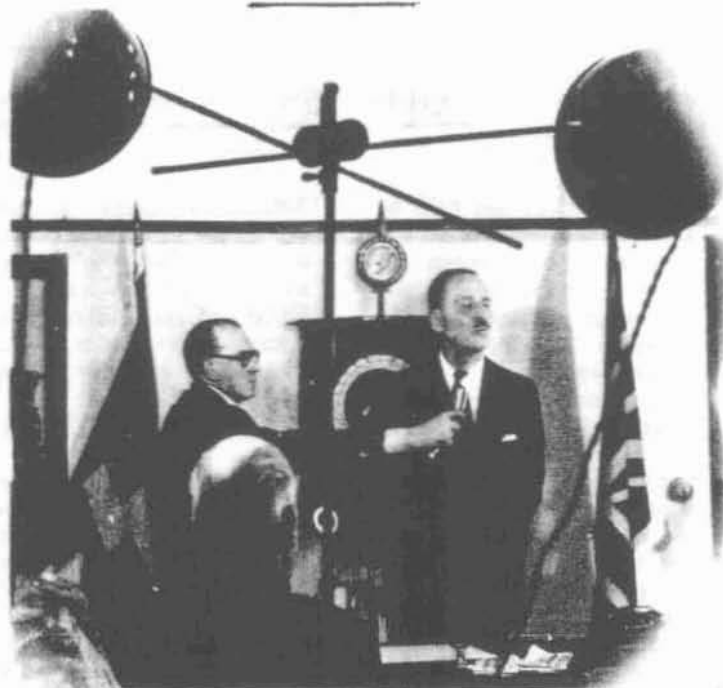
BETRAYAL! OSWALD MOSLEY, THE ENGLISH FUHRER

What to make of the latest television tirade?

The title gives the clue and sets the agenda. Then, the problem of actually making the documentary to fit 'preconceived facts'. Another title: THIS PROGRAMME INCLUDES RE-ENACTMENTS, that run for over a third of the total. Add to this some talking heads, a sprinkling of old newsreel and Hey Presto! Yet another mangling of the Mosley story hits the screen.

The aim of the documentary was to portray the Mosleys as traitors beholden to Germany. Loaded sentences such as "Mosley played the patriot" ... "Lead him down the path to treason" ... "Would combine to drive him into the camp of Nazism and Hitler's Third Reich" ... "Birkett was unable to catch Mosley out on anything remotely treasonable, he was too devious".

Having failed to prove the accusation, Diana Mosley was invoked as Sir Oswald's conduit to Hitler. "Diana Guinness had more Machiavellian objectives". The well known facts of Diana's involvement in raising money for the British Union by attempting to establish a radio station of light music, was turned into a sinister plot to broadcast political propaganda from German soil.



MOSLEY BEING INTERVIEWED FOR AMERICAN TELEVISION IN A FAIRER AND LESS VINDICTIVE TIME.

Sentences like "The Mitfords were just a filthy rich old English family" ... "He made a politically advantageous marriage to Lady Cynthia Curzon", predictably turn up.

Recreated bedroom scenes were equally matched in distastefulness by showing Mosley in handcuffs, Unity walking in a park, putting a gun to her head, hearing a gunshot

To destroy the premise of the programme that Mosley was a traitor and would have become "The English Fuhrer" is not difficult.

Hansard, the official record of Parliament for 10th December 1940 records the following. Richard R. Stokes M.P. spoke of a conversation between Sir Oswald Mosley and Norman Birkett: Sir Oswald: "There appear to be two grounds for detaining us - (1) A suggestion that we are traitors who would take up arms and fight with the Germans if they landed, and (2) that our propaganda undermines the civilian morale."

Mr Birkett replied: "Speaking for myself, you can entirely dismiss the first suggestion."

Sir Oswald Mosley: "Then I can only assume that we have been detained because of our campaign in favour of negotiated peace."

Mr Norman Birkett: Yes, Sir Oswald, that is the case."

and seeing her fall to the ground. William Joyce's flight to Germany when war was inevitable missed out the fact that Mosley had expelled him in April 1937. One of the most extraordinary twists to a well-known story concerned Cable Street, when police advised Mosley to abandon his East End march. Compliance with this request was taken as "Mosley had backed away from the most tempting offer destiny would ever give him". A question of damned if you do, damned if you don't. The post-war years were quickly disposed of without mention of the grand design of Europe a Nation.

How do these programmes get produced? A better question might be why are these programmes produced. The singular answer is to reinforce stereotypes and at all costs associate Mosley and the British Union with Germany and all that implies. The known fact that Mosley only met Hitler a couple of times and did not care for him, does not sit well with the stereotypers. Now that Diana Mosley has passed on, a new freedom opens up to defame without fear of legal proceedings. As government papers are released into the public domain, a raft of new generation researchers and writers who trade in truth and refuse to rely on manufactured half-truths is emerging. A more honest picture is being built and without doubt continues to strengthen the rightness of Mosley's cause.

Felix Bannerman

FOR ONSCREEN TRUTH:
www.oswaldmosley.com

"Is every politician who opposes a war during its progress of necessity a traitor? If so, Chatham was a traitor and Burke and Fox especially; and in later times Cobden and Bright and even Mr. Chamberlain (Joseph), all these were traitors."

Mr. Lloyd George on politicians who oppose wars speaking at Oxford in 1900.

What Mosley Really Thought and Wrote On "Crimes against Humanity"

"The ill-treatment of the powerless and weak has always seemed to me the most despicable of vices and I have given effect to this view in repeated battles against various bullies throughout my political life ... My every instinct is against the covertly organised bullying, the cowardly tyranny of the loutish gaoler over a defenceless prisoner ... I cite the case of atrocities committed by the British Government in India and Ireland, of which I had definite knowledge because I collected the evidence to oppose British Government in Parliament. Since then distinguished men have averred that similar things have been done in Cyprus and Kenya ... Honour, truth and manly restraint are not only necessary as in the past but more than ever essential." *Europe: Faith and Plan* (1958).

MOSLEY'S LAST STREET MEETING IN BETHNAL GREEN



MOSLEY SPEAKS IN WOOD CLOSE BETHNAL GREEN ON SUNDAY 12TH SEPTEMBER 1965.

For years Union Movement sites for Mosley's outdoor Bethnal Green meetings were situated in the working class stronghold around Hereford Street, Wood Close and Kerbel Street. All adjacent to the traditional Cheshire street Sunday morning market. The absolute epicentre of genuine east end life. A world away from the tourist trap of Petticoat Lane.

Unlike outdoor venues such as Trafalgar Square that needed booking, and approval by the Police the siting of street meetings, while known to the authorities could not be guaranteed. The imported 'local' opposition often attempted to trump pre-arranged Union Movement sites by setting up filibustering rival meetings sometimes 24 hours prior to the advertised Mosley meeting. Possession in these cases was ten tenths of the law.

Blackshirts made of sterner stuff countered this annoyance by advertising the meetings as

taking place in 'Cheshire Street' which gave the organisers a wide choice of well known side streets to set up the speaker equipment a couple of hours prior to Mosley's arrival.

On Sunday 12th September 1965, Harry Green of the Yellow Star Movement had occupied a pitch in Hereford Street in an attempt to thwart UM's planned Mosley meeting. An 'old Mosleyite' takes up the story. 'Keith Gibson and I set out about 9.30am from UM's National Headquarters in Victoria arriving at Wood Close at about 10.15 to set up the loud speaker equipment. Earlier that day (4.30am) a couple of our lads had been sent down to secure the pitch by starting a token meeting. The Tannoy amplifier was powered by a massive batch of accumulators in the van. The lads meanwhile continued holding the meeting and started to use the battery powered loud hailer. After a few minutes they fitted up the stand and Keith Gibson opened the meeting. Five minutes into his speech the accumulators shorted! No power at all.

For the next half an hour, while Keith struggled to get the equipment going, opening speakers kept on standing astride him as he lay full length in the van.



ONLY THE LONELY: A SPOILER MEETING ORGANISED BY THE YELLOW STAR MOVEMENT IN A FORLORN ATTEMPT TO STOP MOSLEY SPEAKING.

Eventually he gave up and O.M., when he arrived, had to use a portable loud hailer. While the struggle with the PA equipment was going on I grabbed half a dozen members - gave them an Honour Standard each and lined them up in two horizontal rows of three - the last appearance of the standards at an O.M. meeting. His speech as always touched on the current situation. The failure of the Labour Government only kept in office by loans from international bankers creating unemployment as the only means of solving the balance of payments problem. The

deliberate influx of immigrants to help hold down wages with a pool of cheap labour. Union Movements humane policy of repatriation to good homes and jobs in their homelands. Making a strong statement to keep Britain out of Vietnam where no British interest was involved.

The meeting itself went well. Mosley's speech was as usual inspiring with no opposition. O.M. then walked with a section of the crowd to the Blade Bone public house to share a convivial pint with his supporters.

As a friend remarked: 'we don't say we have always been right - but you tell us when we have been wrong!' Unknown at the time, this was to be the last occasion that Mosley spoke at a pre-advertised outdoor Sunday morning East End meeting.

He returned the next year to fight in the General Election and used a loud speaker van in a rolling programme of unselected stops to address the electorate together with the more set piece indoor meeting but B.G. never again heard his voice echoing along Cheshire Street. A loss to us all.



MOSLEY PAUSES OUTSIDE THE BLADE BONE PUBLIC HOUSE TO CHAT TO SUPPORTERS.

IMMIGRATION:

Destruction or Construction?

"We are losing our culture, and successive polls shown that 80 per cent of the public want to see much tougher immigration controls ... The Government responds with spin. It constantly repeats that, with a declining and ageing population, we need immigration to provide skilled and unskilled immigrants to build our economy - immigrants who contribute more to the public purse than they cost. Neither of these propositions is true"

- Sir Andrew Green, *Daily Telegraph* (24 February 2004).

"Our wage-prices mechanism will level up wages and conditions in similar industries throughout Europe, and on that sound basis will then raise wages, salaries, pensions and the general condition of life. You will see no movement of population from one country to another seeking work once you have established that system. Until then, immigration will be controlled ... Our concept of European Union does not involve a rootless cosmopolitanism"

- Sir Oswald Mosley, *Right or Wrong?* (September 1961)

HUMBUG OVER DRESDEN

By Paul Collins

This year the "Holocaust" commemoration – a recent and if wire-pullers and fixers have their way, obligatory penitential date in the Western calendar – was followed almost at once by the 60th anniversary of the aerial destruction of Dresden.

The distaste with which some participants in the remembrance of the first anticipated the second was palpable. And the contrast between how these two terrible events were remembered, presented and commented upon was as intellectually dishonest as it was predictable.

"The Holocaust" – defined as the premeditated killing of six million Jews by the Nazis – was a term unknown until the late 1960s. Neither Churchill or Eisenhower referred to it in their memoirs which is curious since publication came within a few years of the event.

In fact the feverish intensity with which "The Holocaust" is a now orchestrated and commemorated increases in proportion to the distance separating it from the present, an inversion of normal experience. And what is "commemorated" and the subject of a flood-tide of books, television documentaries, articles and Hollywood movies is this: that the Nazis had a programme to exterminate the Jewish race, and got so far as to murder Six Million, most in the gas chambers of the concentration camps.

Only a crackpot or moral dysfunctional disputes that vast numbers of Jews were vilely treated by the Nazis, and that many were murdered or lost their lives through ill-treatment (the revisionist explanation for camp deaths and the familiar and harrowing newsreel films of the liberated survivors is typhus, which swept much of Germany near the end of the war)

But question certain details, above all the "Six Million" figure, and the existence of homicidal gas chambers and you become a "Holocaust Denier", an intellectual, political or social pariah. And if you happen to live in Germany, France or Canada, you will be persecuted and jailed without a word of criticism in the British press and media.

You are free to deny the existence of God – the Blair junta actually plans to introduce "atheism to the school religious curriculum – but not the tenets of "The Holocaust. What the subsequently witch-hunted

Jewish academic Norman Finkelstein terms "The Holocaust Industry", and Jewish historian Alfred Lilienthal

"Holocaustomania" has acquired the status of an enforced secular religion demanding unthinking assent. More than this; it is now the Instant Response weapon of the multiculturalists, diversity dervishes and gleeful destructionists. Stand up for our national identity, voice opposition to immigration and bogus asylum seekers, and the knee-jerk reaction is assured – "Remember the Holocaust!" Yet if this Orwellian dogma had been in place in say 1948, we would have had to accept as "facts" the following:

That the Nazis gassed the Jews at Dachau, Buchenwald and other concentration camps inside Germany proper, that four million were gassed at Auschwitz-Birkenau and another 1.5 million at Majdanek, that Jews were also exterminated by electricity and steam as well as gas, from the corpses were manufactured lampshades and soap.

All these "facts" have since been quietly dismissed or abandoned – the myths endure of course – and it is on Auschwitz that "The Holocaust" event is now centred and focused. But inquire whether the scale of the horror is compatible with the technical practicalities and logistics, point out that of the 200 autopsies conducted out by the Americans none revealed death by gassing, that certain "eye witness" testimonies are unsustainable or plain fanciful, that Moscow has admitted that the "show piece" crematorium at Auschwitz was in fact built by the Russians in 1948 and passed off – and still universally accepted – as authentic.

Raise these and similar points and you are in deep trouble or a prison cell (in Canada in the chilling case of Ernst Zundel, for two years without charge or due legal process, minus a simple table, in solitary confinement and with an electric light burning 24 hours a day). Intervention from Amnesty International, civil rights organisations or what now passes for an independent Canadian judiciary. You jest.

It should hardly need saying that the terrible issue of life and death in the Nazi concentration camps should be open to the rigours of normal historical enquiry. Claim this however and you book hot



DRESDEN. BACK TO YEAR ZERO.

coals on your head and reputation. Immunity from scholarly inquiry and as much as a single distressing voice is what the all hectoring and bullying Holocaust Industry demands and is getting.

In all this it is aided and abetted by court historians, me-too politicians, the compliant, lazy and fraudulent who – with the rabid EU Stasi PC enforcers now in full pursuit – are imposing on nations claiming the values of intellectual freedom.

Compare this with the bombing of Dresden. While The Holocaust is played up, Dresden is played down. Never Forget is replaced with Never Remember. While the Six Million figure is held to be inviolable – and acceptance legally binding – Dresden's quantifiable agony is the subject of endless debate, downscaling carried out with a freedom and abandon which if applied to details of The Holocaust would result in persecution and prosecution. Dresden's suffering is minimized and skated over, the underlying message that its citizens asked for it, that the whole issue is tiresome, an affront to received notions of rightness that the only good Germans were dead Germans.

What follows is not in dispute.

On St Valentine's Day eve 1945, 2000 RAF bombers dropped over 3000 high explosives and 650,000 incendiary bombs – firebombs – on the inner core of this "Florence of the North." An undefended city the size of Liverpool into which hundreds of thousands of refugees were fleeing from Stalin's advancing armies. Three hours later came a second wave, half the bombload dropping on the centre of the conflagration, the remainder falling around the edge of the firestorm now consuming the citizens of Dresden by the tens of thousands.

The intense heat caused by these huge columns of smoke and flames miles high and thousands of acres in area, caused a tremendous updraft of air at the base, and into it surrounding fresh air rushed at speeds thirty times that of a tornado. And in this real Holocaust, men, women, children and animals were swept into the inferno.

After these attacks had subsided rescue workers found even in the shelters nothing but the liquefied remains of humanity, in many cases death's agony increased by the affect of phosphorous bombs dropped in defiance of international law. Women and children who threw themselves

Humbug Over Dresden continued

into fountains were instantly boiled to death.

Then a third wave, this time 450 American Flying Fortresses opened their bays over what 48 hours earlier had been a fairytale city of spires and cobbled streets. It is said Dresden's destruction was vindicated by the city's factories and communications systems, critical to the German war effort. And – here that last card of the apologist and self-appointed moral high-grounder – carried out at Stalin's request and agreed by Churchill and Roosevelt at Yalta. Suppose that something comparable had been done to Athens and then justified by the Germans on the grounds that the firebombing had been requested by Mussolini!

The claims of strategic necessity are to say the least, contentious. Moore significantly they ignore or obscure the bigger picture within which Dresden – far from being a one-off – was part of an established pattern of British area bombing instigated by Churchill in late 1940 – well in advance of comparable German attacks on Britain – and put in place by Air Marshals Sir Charles Portal and Arthur Harris.

Portal and Harris argued that the main objective of night-time blanket bombing was not the destruction of military or industrial targets but the undermining of civilian morale. Portal in particular was keen that entire cities and towns should be wiped out. As a result all German towns and cities above population of 50,000 were destroyed from 50 to 80 per cent. Some were selected – the cynical strategic term was "browning" – because they were largely timber built and would fire easily. What was targeted in Dresden were not factories or rail yards but Dresden itself, carpet bombed – to use a US phrase in the Vietnam war – "Back into the Stone Age". Estimates of German civilian deaths range from 600,000 to two million, and Bomber Command losses not far short of 59,000.

After the War Churchill characteristically wiped his hands, hid behind "Bomber Harris" – much loved by his airmen – and declined to honour the extraordinary brave crews of Bomber Command he had ordered out on dangerous and sometimes as here, strategically questionable missions. Were Churchill, Harris and Portal "war criminals"? I hold no view, but had they been Germans would we have doubted their Nuremberg fate?

Looks Familiar?

Anyone visiting Singapore with only a modicum of political awareness must be struck by the similarity of the ruling Peoples Action Party's symbol of a flash and circle and British Unions lighting flash of Action within a circle of unity. Now the truth is out.



CURRENT SYMBOL OF THE PEOPLES ACTION PARTY IN SINGAPORE.



THE BRITISH UNION – UNION MOVEMENTS FLASH AND CIRCLE SYMBOL.

In a recent interview Lee Kuan Yew, founding Prime Minister of modern day Singapore and now "Minister Mentor" of the small but vibrant republic admits that his party's symbol was inspired by the well known British Union logo. "I was aware of it!" he says "It was a decision made at the time when we were all young revolutionaries and were greatly influenced by the thinking and the mood of the time" At that time, Lee was a student at Cambridge University studying Law.

The famous B.U. symbol was embraced after the war by Mosley's Union Movement. What is known is that Sir Oswald was regularly invited to speak at schools and universities, including Cambridge. The intriguing thought is did Lee Kuan Yew attend these meetings or perhaps meet Sir Oswald. Some slight tinkering with the symbol can be noted. The P.A.P version is less angled with the bolt of lightning being coloured red and the circle a deep blue. Lee goes on to say "It's a recognised brand in Singapore and it would be foolish to change it. We would have to pay a brand consultant millions of dollars to create a new one."

Friends of Mosley are flattered by such endorsement. Perhaps further research might reveal some embracing of policies which led a backward corner of the Far East becoming such a dynamic state. E.B.

**MY LIFE**

The autobiography of Sir Oswald Mosley.

Hardback £15 Paperback £5

Cheques payable to: Brockingday

Send to: Brockingday, 27 Old Gloucester Street, London, WC1N 3XX



In the wake of 'must read' blockbusters such as Montefiore's *Stalin: the court of the Red Tsar*, Applebaum's

Gulag: a history of the Soviet Camps and Rayfield's *Stalin and his Hangmen*, comes a slimmer but no less important volume, *Stalin's British Victims* by Francis Beckett.

This, yet again, exposes the true worth of the world wide criminal conspiracy known as the Communist Party. The ever increasing accessibility of the Soviet archives means that writers who until recently had only one perspective of a story can often produce a more rounded picture by a trip to Moscow visiting the Centre for the Preservation of Documents.

What sends a shudder down this reviewer's spine is that Beckett's book centres on four English women "as English as fish and chips as familiar in our capital as Piccadilly Circus" who, for various reasons, embraced the Soviet cause to the extent of deciding to live the idealistic dream first hand. One was shot, one nearly died as a slave labourer and two saw their husbands dragged away to the Gulag. Another amazing revelation is that the KGB holds no fewer than 1,500 files on British (presumably fellow traveller) Citizens, certainly the basis for a wider ranging book.

In Andrew Roberts' *Daily Mail* review he says "What is so shocking about the book is how it exposes so clearly the tendency of the British Left-Liberal intelligentsia to white wash out of memory the torture, execution and slaughter of tens of millions ... the greatest genocide of all time."

Comrade rests its case.

W.H.

Stalin's British Victims
By Francis Beckett
Sutton Publishing
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PASSING OF A PATRIOT



Still turning above his home in the Suffolk countryside, a flash and circle weather vane proudly proclaiming the faith of old comrade, Ronald Creasy who has died. A man of strong character who wholeheartedly embraced the pre-war Mosley doctrine and remained loyal despite considerable vicissitudes to the end.

JUSTICE FOR ALL

Ronald's stirrings of revolutionary spirit first surfaced during the General Strike of 1926. Being a young landowning farmer he was by natural selection a Conservative. His considerable horse riding skills led to him being approached by the local constabulary to help 'keep order' by accompanying mounted police officers in nearby Ipswich. In evaluating cause and effect he found himself refusing an all expenses paid quasi police role. As he later recalled 'In a sudden surge, I found my sympathies were entirely with the strikers and that I could not in any way act against them'.

The following years saw Ronald join such ventures as English Army and English Mystery well meaning but hopeless groups totally forgotten today. He then became aware of Mosley and his struggle. Typically, after 'devouring' all available literature he, by appointment, went to London and met Mosley. The outcome of this meeting of minds was a new British Union branch in Eye, Suffolk with Ronald becoming District Leader. He later recalled "I knew that once I came into the open it would put no little sacrifice on my family. The sharp division on one sphere of life by linking myself to Sir Oswald Mosley rising phoenix like from the dust of a worn out system". He soon went on to establish a number of satellite branches all with a strong and loyal core membership.

LANDMARK YEARS

His energy was prodigious. He became the first elected British Union councillor, later the Blackshirt Parliamentary Candidate for the constituency of Eye. Because of the war the 1940 election became 'the election that never was'.

Thanks to a sympathetic editor he wrote a weekly column 'British Union Topics' in the North Suffolk Messenger' appealing to the agricultural community and he took a stand at the Annual Royal Norfolk Agricultural Show. His greatest coup was to invite Sir Oswald to speak at Eye Town Hall. He recalled 'prior to the meeting Mosley dined at my nearby house after which he walked into the garden where we discussed philosophical thoughts at great length. We suddenly became aware of the Town Hall clock in the valley striking the hour. It made us five minutes late for the meeting'. The Town Hall was packed with loud speakers hastily set-up outside to accommodate the overflow. Many more members were recruited because of that meeting.

TWO SUFFOLK FARMERS DETAINED

One a Member of Eye Town Council

Two Eye (Suffolk) farmers, Mr. Ronald Creasy, of Cranleigh House, and Mr. George Frederick Hoggarth,

NEWSPAPER REPORT OF CREASY'S ARREST.

A TESTING TIME

In 1940 the blow fell. Arrest like so many others under the infamous 18B law. The British Union destroyed. On release, he returned to farming. 'Digging for Victory'. But he never once wavered in his support for Mosley, later embracing the new concept of the European Union. He wrote articles endorsing the policy for UNION and ACTION newspapers, attend meetings, dinners and socials where the long-term friendship with Sir Oswald was regularly renewed. In more recent times he supported Friends of Mosley, and often spoke at their gatherings. Ronald Creasy never gave up. Despite an advanced age just six weeks prior to his death he spoke about bridleways being damaged by the current craze of quad bikes and four wheel drives.

In a packed church, warm tributes from all parts of the political spectrum were paid. We pay tribute to a true Mosley man and add our sympathies of loss to his family.



RONALD CREASY (A RECENT PICTURE).



RONALD CREASY (ON THE LEFT) TALKING TO HIS DISTRICT TREASURER GEORGE HOGGARTH AND FELLOW MEMBERS OUTSIDE THE BRITISH UNION STAND AT THE ROYAL NORFOLK AGRICULTURAL SHOW IN JUNE 1939.



RONALD CREASY IN CONVERSATION WITH DIANA MOSLEY AT A FRIENDS OF MOSLEY DINNER IN LONDON.

COMRADE

Incorporating ACTION and UNION

Newsletter of Friends of O.M.

'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'

No.60

20th ANNIVERSARY ISSUE

APRIL 2006



ONWARD! CHRISTIAN'S SOLDIERS

In 1982, a small committed group of men met in a hired room above a pub in London's East End. The purpose was to discuss ways of perpetuating the memory of the late Sir Oswald Mosley, who had died two years previously.

The outcome was the founding of **FRIENDS OF MOSLEY - F.O.M.** It was lead by a council of five, four of whom had been chosen in 1966 to run the **MOSLEY DIRECTORATE**, a body created by Sir Oswald when he retired from active politics. The initial work was the uniting of old friends by means of buffet socials, held all over the country. This success led onto a Commemorative Dinner in 1985 endorsed by the presence of Diana, Lady Mosley.



THE SPIRIT LIVES!...
THE REST WILL FOLLOW



FRONT PAGE OF THE FIRST
EDITION OF COMRADE

EXPANSION

A growing recognition that a vacuum existed in reaching older members together with interest from a younger generation, led to the launching in 1986 of **COMRADE, NEWSLETTER OF FRIENDS OF O.M.** By common consent John Warburton, a career journalist and life member of the National Union of Journalists became its editor. **NO BETTER CHOICE COULD HAVE BEEN MADE.** A follower of Mosley from the age of 14, his knowledge of the party was unparalleled. Under his Nom de Plume 'JOHN CHRISTIAN' the paper grew from an initial double-sided sheet of A4 to some editions running to 24 pages.

In the early days the grossest myths of the Mosley era needed to be slain. Hard facts on *Olympia, Hyde Park, Cable Street, Bermondsey, Earls Court* put truth into print. These deeply researched articles led onto ground-breaking landmark stories:

- The first two casualties of WWII were blackshirts.



JOHN WARBURTON A.K.A.
JOHN CHRISTIAN HOLDING
THE INEVITABLE
CIGARETTE

- The 'loss' of hundreds of 18B files.
- The naming of B.U.F. members who died fighting the brother's war.
- Three years of research exposed Blackshirt Rosewarne's death being used for perfidious Government propaganda.

A ringing endorsement in December 1992 was the signed agreement with Sanctuary Press to allow **UNION and ACTION** to be incorporated into **COMRADE**.



LADY MOSLEY AT THE
INAUGURAL F.O.M. DINNER

EXACTING STANDARDS

The strength of Comrade has always been its attachment to truth. Unless submitted stories were backed up with documentary proof, the editor would not publish. By his example, a group of dedicated researchers was established, whose work is regularly published in Comrade. In addition a rolling programme of book publishing, the

expanding list of known 18B detainees, nearing a thousand names together with other projects continue.

This record of honest reporting has without doubt generated a rising tide of interest in the Mosley years. Newspaper articles, books and television programmes, (not always favourable), have followed as have the enormous and available resources of the pre and post-war weekly Mosley newspapers, together with an ever-expanding professional web-site

(www.oswaldmosley.com) underpins the whole enterprise.

We of the next generation salute John, Fred, Martin, Danny and Michael for their fortitude and forward thinking.

WHY 'COMRADE'

To arrive at the word 'COMRADE' for our masthead took considerable discussion together with a robust exchange of views. For too long the word had been associated with Communism and trendy, lefty, politicians. The problem of using the word had arisen before, when three British Union songs had incorporated it.

ON, COMRADES!

COMRADES: RAISE THE MARTIAL CHORUS

A MARCHING SONG
(Comrades, the voices of the dead battalions)

The winning argument at that time 'implied an ideal of unity in the service of a common cause, together with the passionate struggle beneath one banner towards one end'. Anyway, to paraphrase General Booth of the Salvation Army 'why should the devil have all the good tunes'?

When the word first appeared in a British Union context The Leader opined [the word] 'may be used without prejudice. The closeness of our classless comradeship is the real secret of our strength and spirit'.

CORRESPONDENTS WRITE ...

To the Editor of COMRADE

Sir,

Since Oswald Mosley died 25 years ago, the world around us has greatly changed, not for the better. In retrospect, his rich legacy of ideas deserves re-examination, and we are entitled to consider how his clear and creative mind might have addressed the new problems entangling his fellow-countrymen.

The notion that he was wrong to expect a major economic crisis misreads the evidence, for in 1930 on resigning from government he said he feared even more a 'long slow crumbling down the years' – an apt description of the fate of Britain under his opponents. He was right to organise a national movement, both for emergency response and for long-term regeneration. His specific warning that the system would begin to crash by 1939 or 'escape into war' was justified. There is no worse 'crisis' than an avoidable world war, particularly one in which his domestic enemies, by ignoring his advice on strategy and re-armament, themselves alone risked enemy occupation. Several established historians can be quoted in his support (Cowling, Barnett, Newman, Charmley, etc.).

When the Empire predictably disintegrated, Mosley advanced a policy of European recovery and union, which brought in our Dominions, enriched Africa, gave his country a formative leadership on the continent while protecting our internal way of life, avoiding bureaucracy but accelerating prosperity by his unique 'wage-price mechanism'. In trying to reach the electorate, however, he again encountered an organised media boycott and sinister collaboration between the 'authorities' and communist disorder.

This became particularly noticeable when he emerged as the earliest major opponent of multi-cultural mass-settlement, by whose cheap labour the financial establishment attempts to 'postpone' industrial collapse. Would Mosley have imported millions of Muslims and then inflamed them by illegal invasion in the Middle East? And would he not have tried to discourage decline in white birth rates in face of the third-world overpopulation explosion while opposing retreat into the suicidal illusions of 'debt, dope and dirt'?



He was perhaps a bit too generous in his elevation of communism and therefore its longevity, but the problem, to which he almost exclusively drew attention, of eastern undercutting across western markets is returning with hi-tech vengeance, irrespective of regime change in Moscow, the Balkans – or Beijing.

Jonathan Porritt writes: 'The idea that today's neo-liberal, no-holds-barred model of globalisation will last much longer seems fantastical anyway, as nation after nation feels the pain of China and other lowest-cost economies making it all but impossible to compete ...' (*Independent*, 4 Nov. 2005). Can we not imagine Mosley backing this environmentalist's call for 'security of supply in terms of energy, food and even manufacturing' with his usual 'detailed proposals'?

Many reassessments of other 20th century leaders have appeared in recent years – Mussolini, Churchill, Stalin, General de Gaulle, Mao, etc. Different authors reach conflicting conclusions by diverse manipulations of 'research' material. Whatever may be said for or against other famous men, Mosley's outstanding merits remain indelibly in the actual record.

What matter above all, especially today, are not his private activities but his fertile writings and speeches available in the public domain. Posterity will be grateful to his Friends for securing that enormous archive and preventing its abuse, while adding their own authentic oral history and photography.

Yours sincerely,

J. Cochrane.



MOSLEY AMONG HIS PEOPLE

Sir,

The dumbing down of public service TV and the degradation of academic history into a brew of Marxist propaganda and Postmodern psychobabble is well illustrated by the BBC History Magazine's recent invitation to carefully selected writers to nominate the ten 'worst' people in the history of Britain.

Prof. Clive Emsley (OU) chose Jack the Ripper, the sadistic serial Killer who mutilated helpless victims in east London, as the worst person in the 19th Century, while Prof. Joanna Bourke (Birkbeck) chose Sir Oswald Mosley, who offered hope to unemployed men and exploited women in east London, as the most 'pernicious' person of all throughout the UK in the 20th Century.

One Ian Herbert in *Independent On-Line* (27 December 2005) developed this theme with a series of untruths: Mosley's 'private army' attacked 'blacks', he was 'banned from fighting a general election', and he was jailed for 'treason' in the same year that marches through 'Jewish' districts were followed by 'rioting'. Of course, not only our subscribers but all honest historians, familiar with the actual facts, recognise such statements as complete fictions, which if Mosley were alive would be matters for his libel lawyers, but given the moronic levels of illiteracy to which historical education has been allowed to fall in this country, a specific correction should go on record.

Prof. Bourke herself is quoted as choosing Mosley because he still continues to have an 'impact on society' and 'remains the inspiration for far-right groups'. By 'far right' is she referring to his detailed plans for systematically raising the living standards of Britain and its Empire, and later all Europe, for slum-clearance and maternity care, or his writings on taxation, parliamentary reform, abolition of torture, and workers' ownership? How thoroughly has she studied this subject?

Presumably she has in mind, instead, his prophetic opposition to multi-cultural mass-immigration, the dangers of communism, the second world war, the financial rackets behind global trade, and the eventual 'stink state' of organised crime, drug pushing and child prostitution?

Who is this opinionated lady? Apparently one of the toadstool-crop of writers on 'gender, class and ethnicity' – whose current 'work' is about the 'history of emotions'. Sample the review of her book on Fear reviewed in *The Guardian* on 19 February by Piers Brendon (no friend of Mosley).

Her 'choice' merely confirms two faces: (1) Mosley was the outstanding personality of British political life, uniquely influential not only during the last century but well into the present one, long after his death. (2) She hates him for it.

Yours sincerely,

John Venables.

SWINGS AND ROUNDABOUTS

ALL the fun of the political fair. You pays the price, jump on a ride, get propelled over a predictable course and always end up where you started.

Peter Kennedy examines the latest promises of the (new?) Tory party lead by a man called Cameron or in the vernacular of one Conservative heavyweight TORY LITE.

Like babies nappies, politicians should be changed frequently and for the same reason. Which is why David Cameron replaced Michael Howard, who succeeded Ian Duncan Smith, who – well you get the idea. The Tories have developed a loser's rash and want to come in from the wet. But Cameron's arrival is another re-working of the old cliché that change is sometimes the cynical mask for continuity. Not in this case for his party – whose terminal decline is likely to resume – but for British establishment politics now resembling more and more a state dictatorship.

EACH WAY DOUBLE

As Tony Benn says, Cameron and Blair could serve in the other's Cabinet or in a coalition whose leadership is at variance with their respective parties. New Tory leaders seeking legitimacy used to call upon some past hallowed figure from within, but Cameron is happy to be known as Tony Blair's heir apparent.

And the more he talks, the more the credentials fit. And if you need the defining statement of Cameron's ideology, here it is, issued within an hour of his leadership victory:

"No more grumbling about modern Britain. I love this country at it is, not what it was." Yes, he's that kinda guy.

A REALITY CHECK

I hear people grumbling about modern Britain but they are in a minority. The majority do not grumble: they are angry, they despair, they are contemptuous of those in authority, they watch in disbelief, as the country they knew and loved changes, almost it seems, beyond recovery, they sell up and go abroad. Mere grumbling went out with the Two Ronnies.

Why? Britain "as it is", the one Mr Cameron loves, is bottom of the Western world's table in mass education, health provision, public transport, policing, and economic growth. It is at the top in illiteracy, dearth of industrial skills, exporting jobs, urban decay, crime – especially violent – divorce, broken families, single parenthood, and abortions. Other factors, loss of identity, white flight, dumb-downing "culture", New Labour corruption at every level of national life, cannot be placed in a league table; they are uniquely Modern British.

Insofar as David Cameron allies himself to the State we are in, he is part of the problem. And as he tells us, he allies himself wholeheartedly, emerging from nowhere as a conservative in one respect: on almost every point of principle he is committed to continuing the policies and legacy of Tony Blair. And like

Blair his natural habitat is social liberalism and New World Order globalist capitalism, Version Two differing little from the original aside from pink cheeks and a blue rinse.

ALL FOR ONE

Nor is Cameron alone. Here is his party chairman Francis Maude. "The redistribution of wealth does not mean that taxes for the rich will be raised." (then from whom?) Or on million pound bonuses to City bankers: "It is not for us to say who should get paid what for the work that they do. It is for us to say that there should be no discrimination against people because of their race or gender" And as Tories ditched an election "pledge" to set annual quotas on the number of immigrants and asylum seekers entering Britain. "Immigration has been good economically and has contributed to us being a much enriched country culture." If the Martians invaded England, Cameron/Maude would put in a good word in the hope that they would turn out to be good Tory voters.

All of this could have come from Blair, the Lib Dems, or the BBC, illustrating the controlled reality of our so-called democracy. In modern politics nothing is left to chance. The 'democratic paradigm' that says we all have a 'free choice' and a 'free vote' is in fact an engineered illusion designed to impose outcomes on the electorate, but done in such a way that no-one is able consciously to recognise that fact. Political debate whether in the party game or in the media is structured in such a way as to ensure that the debate and any

consequent decisions are contained within a set of 'acceptable political parameters' that do not usurp the status quo. And nowhere is this more obvious than on the issues of immigration and multi-culturalism, where with something approaching fanaticism, "correctness" is imposed and policed (quite literally so) with the acquiescence of the Conservatives.

LA RONDE

So with Cameron we get the "cynical mask of continuity", a Metroland me-too power elitist and accommodationist leading a party that has ceased to hold to anything much beyond naked capitalism and naked ambition. The novelty effect brought a modest lead in the opinion polls. But even a tailor's dummy marketed by the Tory Press has a sporting chance against a jaded Prime Minister more unpopular and distrusted by the day, and Liberal Democrats who sink in drink and awkward positions. After Michael Howard, once described as man with "something of the night", Cameron is sold as the New Dawn. It is another illusion of course, for the Tories who have gone through more new brooms than a witch's coven, are no answer to Britain's predicament.

COMRADE

Thanks its many writers and readers for their continued support.

WHAT PRICE FREEDOM

The one abiding image of the last Labour Party, Brighton Conference was the sight of an 82 year old man being strong armed out of the hall. His crime? Daring to shout "nonsense" when the Foreign Secretary Jack (last) Straw was attempting the impossible-going to war in Iraq. Not only that, but when octogenarian Walter Wolfgang tried to re-enter the hall, the police stopped him under anti-terrorist laws. Bad Karma for the Labour Party. The resulting headlines made even a spin-ridden group of so-called socialists realise that things had gone too far. Next day a gritted teeth kiss and make up apology by Dr Reid and a round of

applause from conference.

On the same patch, Mark Wallace, peacefully collecting signatures for an ID card petition was confronted by five police officers. His details taken down and videoed. He subsequently learned that his statement would be permanently filed and the video kept for seven years. An innocent man is now linked to anti-terrorist investigations. The lawfulness of these actions come within the remit of section 44 of the Terrorism Act 2000. Brought in under the guise of being a powerful weapon against terrorism it is now being vigorously applied in a catch all way by constabularies all over the country.

AND YET MORE ACTION

Take the Serious Organised

Crime and Police Act 2005. This makes it illegal to protest within 1km of Parliament Square. Maya Evans, fell foul of this law, by simply reading out the names of our Iraqi war dead, near to the Whitehall Cenotaph. Arrested, held in a cell for six hours, prosecuted, and fined, the comment of Lord (Dome) Falconer: "A sensible measure to avoid disorder round Parliament". It was said this law was a move on veteran anti-war campaigner Brian Haw, together, with his long standing Parliament Square display of hand written posters. His protest goes on as the law, it transpires, is not retrospective. But even he felt the cold midnight draft when a group descended on him, temporarily

removing his entire display. Why? The Chinese President was passing the next morning on his way to the Mother of Parliaments. As Mr Haw wryly pointed out, Tony B was due to bring up the issue of human rights abuse in the People's Republic. Now, the visiting President has his answer. At least it made a change from the police lining up nose to tail police vans between protesters and the passing despot.

Without question, freedom of expression on all fronts is under sustained fire. This government, with the eager assistance of its superannuated cohorts, is well on the path of authoritarianism. The much cherished Habeas Corpus is in peril. We speak from experience.

YOU HAVE BEEN WARNED.

For decades, the secret trials of Tyler Kent and Anna Wolkoff have intrigued many people. Despite the recent panic shredding by the Government, enough documents have survived to at last expose the lies that have surrounded this case.

In a new book by historian Bryan Clough, he details in great clarity yet another attempted cover-up.

THE KENT-WOLKOFF AFFAIR: HOW CHURCHILL ALMOST LOST THE WAR

Churchill must have been a very unhappy man when he died in 1965. By then everything he set out to achieve had turned pear-shaped – mostly as the result of the Second World War he worked so hard to bring about.

The War was supposed to free Poland from foreign occupation. But after the War it became a puppet state ruled by Soviet Russia.

The War was supposed to safeguard democracy in Europe. But in 1949 there were twice as many dictatorships as in 1939.

Churchill thought the War would protect Britain's position as a world super-power. Instead it turned us into a bankrupt downwardly mobile Third Class power.

He thought the War would protect the British Empire that he cherished so much. It was all gone or going by 1950, including his beloved India. The wealth that could have been used to develop a great partnership of all the peoples of the Empire had been spent on weapons of mass destruction.

And if he thought the War would save Jewish people from German anti-Semitism he was wrong about that too. Most of them were murdered by Nazi fanatics brutalised by war.

SAVED BY SHEER LUCK

But it could have been even worse. Only two strokes of luck, both completely unpredictable in 1939/40, stopped Britain being occupied first by Germany and second by Soviet Russia.

Months before the War ended in 1945, Churchill realised that if our 'gallant Russian ally' kept advancing west, we were in no position to stop them. So he ordered the Imperial General Staff to draw up a plan for the invasion and conquest of Russia (1). Just in case.

OPERATION UNTHINKABLE

The report's conclusion was that we couldn't stop them taking over the whole of Western Europe – unless the German PoWs agreed to fight on our side. Something they almost certainly wouldn't do.

Only the chance invention of the atomic bomb saved Churchill and our people from a Soviet Britain. The 'overkill' of nuclear strikes on two large Japanese cities, Nagasaki and Hiroshima, was as much a message to the Russians as the Japanese in 1945.

But for another unforeseen stroke of luck, the U.S. declaration of war on Germany, nothing could have stopped an eventual German invasion of Britain after 1940.

And let nobody fool themselves, the Germans would have been cruel masters regardless of how much they admired the British. Even so, the entry of America into the War was almost sabotaged by events that took place in Britain during the 1939/1940 'phoney war' period.

CHURCHILL CONNIVES WITH ROOSEVELT

Even before the fall of France, Churchill was in secret communication with U.S. President Roosevelt into how to bring 'isolationist' America into the war on our side. It was our only hope. Roosevelt was all for it but couldn't ignore the widespread anti-war sentiment of the American people. He had to be very careful, there was a presidential election looming later in 1940.

So whilst Roosevelt was promising in public that "no American boys will die in foreign conflicts", in secret he was conniving with Churchill to bring about precisely that.

The problem was, their secret correspondence was being copied by a cipher clerk in the U.S. Embassy in London. Tyler Kent was a man with a mission. He wanted to expose Roosevelt as a two-faced liar and stop America entering the war.

TORY M.P. PLANS TO SPILL THE BEANS

Kent met a White Russian called Anna Wolkoff. She introduced him to Maule Ramsay, a Tory M.P. who like her wanted peace negotiations with Germany. Together, the three of them planned that Ramsay would expose Roosevelt's duplicity and Churchill's complicity to Prime Minister Neville Chamberlain and possibly to other anti-war elements in Parliament.

If that had happened, Roosevelt would almost certainly have been defeated in the November 1940 Election and the U.S. would never have entered the War.

However, an MI5 officer called Maxwell Knight had successfully

planted agents in the Right Club: an organisation formed by Ramsay. As soon as they learned of Ramsay's intentions, MI5 detained the Tory M.P. along with Wolkoff and Kent to prevent them letting a rather large cat out of the bag.

NEW MI5 PAPERS REVEAL ALL

Many articles and books have been written about the 'Kent-Wolkoff Affair' on both sides of the Atlantic.

But only in recent years has MI5 released its papers on the subject – revealing a succession of lies and dirty tricks that even helped them to put a thousand Blackshirts behind bars and barbed wire. These files have been carefully analysed by author Bryan Clough in a fascinating new book: 'State Secrets: The Kent-Wolkoff Affair'.

After secret trials, Kent was sentenced to a long prison term in the U.K.; Ramsay was banged up in Brixton Prison for several years under Regulation 18B; and Anna Wolkoff was convicted as a 'spy' after an audacious sting operation orchestrated by Maxwell Knight.

ANOTHER MI5 STITCH-UP

First, one of his agents told Wolkoff she could get a message to Germany any time she wanted using the Italian diplomatic bag. Shortly after, another MI5 agent asked Wolkoff if she could get a message to Lord Haw-Haw (William Joyce), the wartime German radio propagandist.

So Wolkoff passed a message, no doubt written by Knight himself, from one MI5 agent to another MI5 agent. For this, she was found guilty of 'communicating with the enemy' and received a long sentence – even though the message was probably never even sent.

Bryan Clough also shows that the recent releases clearly indicate that Joseph Kennedy, the U.S. Ambassador to Britain, and Earl Jowitt, the Solicitor General who led the case for the prosecution, had little regard for the truth when they made public statements after the event to protect their own interests regarding the Kent-Wolkoff Affair.

MOSLEY PROVED RIGHT

However, Knight was after bigger fish. Using the recently



STATE SECRETS
The Kent-Wolkoff Affair

Bryan Clough
Hodder & Stoughton Ltd



published diaries of Guy Liddell, the Director of MI5's counter-espionage division, in conjunction with the new MI5 files, Clough shows that as Mosley always claimed his imprisonment was one of the demands made by Labour leaders as the price of entry into a wartime coalition with Churchill. He describes Attlee and Greenwood 'pressing for some action to be taken against the BUF'. Consequently Knight's objective was 'to work up a case against the BUF'. The problem was 'despite having four agents on the case for up to nine months, the only evidence that he had obtained about the putative Fifth Column had been contrived'.

Clough's book and the Liddell diaries show that the Home Secretary, Sir John Anderson, was 'arguing on judicial lines, saying that he had no evidence that would lead him to suppose that members of the BUF would actively assist the enemy' and that 'unless he could get such evidence he thought it would be a mistake to imprison Mosley and his supporters'.

MI5 FOOLS THE BRITISH HOME SECRETARY

To meet the demands of the Labour leaders, Liddell and Knight embarked on a masterly campaign of deception on Anderson. The Liddell diaries record the latter held his ground, even pointing out that Mosley had issued an instruction to his Blackshirts to do nothing to impede the war effort and in the event of invasion to fight to the last man.

"But don't you see, Minister, you've been tricked", replied the two MI5 officers lying through their teeth. "Every Blackshirt understands that instruction is just a coded message, a 'cover' to help protect themselves".

Clough shows how the now desperate MI5 officers also made false claims that Mosley was involved in treacherous negotiations with Ramsey and others to replace the Government with one headed by General

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

"Now we must work for a United Europe"

The prophetic words of Sir Oswald Mosley, on the day victory was declared in Europe. A man, so often ahead of his time in political thought, knew that chasing the old dream of Empire and Nationalism would become a self-defeating issue. How best to advance such a radical concept of Europe a Nation against a backdrop of venal enmity towards the vanquished? After years of imprisonment and house arrest, the first priorities for him were recovery of health, then writing a book defending his opposition to the war (My Answer). This would be followed by a further hardback, setting out the new thinking (The Alternative). From that point the real question: "A simple peddler of ideas", or the launch of a Pan-European Movement?

The lead up to such a momentous decision can be traced back to the early war years, when a government thought it had smashed, forever the spirit of Mosley, and a countless number of his followers.

DECLARING FOR EUROPE

By Gregory Maitland

In June 1940, British Union was closed down. In the face of a thousand arrests, desperate times for those who were left behind. Instant imprisonment often meant instant penury for families and loved ones, the spread of 5th Column rumour by an obsessed vindictive executive added ostracism to the mix. People outside often had an equally rough time as those inside.

In the wake of such hardship the 18B Detainees' Dependents Appeal Fund was formed. Later this was registered under the War Charities Act, as the 18B Detainees (British) Aid Fund, with offices at 21 Grays Inns Road, WC1. Its Chairman was George Dunlop of Limehouse Branch. The Secretary was Mrs P.E. Jones, Treasurer John Jones, assisted by Committee members, E. Conner and Clifford Woodland.

Unlike many of today's charities, the 18B Fund steered clear of political propaganda, but through a sister organisation, The 18B Publicity Council, aimed to 'ventilate the constitutional and moral issues arising from 18B'. Notice of the first meeting at Holborn Hall in surviving documents is marked 'details submitted to authorities - no objections'. At the same time, a special Winter Appeal was launched by the Fund for warm clothing together with a Children's Appeal. From prison the Leader sent his blessing asserting "it is by far the best work his old associates can do". The 18B Fund began by sending prisoners food parcels, clothing, tobacco and other comforts also helping those released who were finding great difficulty in getting jobs. Neither did it forget the "suffering callously brought upon British wives and children by the removal from their homes of those against whom no crime is alleged". With those in mind, the 18B Fund mounted an 'adopt the family of a detainee' campaign.

A GENEROUS RESPONSE

At the end of the year, Dunlop was able to announce a total income of £1325 for the previous ten months, all of which had been distributed. The next year, through donations, collections and concerts the figure had risen to £1573. The Concerts were organised by Bill Luckin at the Kingsway Hall. In October 1943 the soprano Elsie Arnold sang. By May 1944, the programme had acquired a less cultural tone when John Charnley appeared as the 'Demon Doughnut King' assisted by Charlie Watts! Meanwhile, the 18B Publicity Council was stirring the



BILL LUCKIN

'Democratic Conscience' by reporting conditions endured by some detainees in Walton Gaol Liverpool. It described 'solitary confinement in a darkened cell 9' by 5' for 23 hours a day for months on end ... filthy bedding resulting in Taenia Dermatitis. In other camps conditions were barbarous, and medical neglect widespread. Third degree interrogation and other brutalities were commonplace at the notorious Latchmere House, Ham Common.

It is without question that the charitable work of the fund was an absolute life-line to many on both sides of the wire.

A JOB WELL DONE

In August 1945, a Notice of Winding Up of Accounts and Final Appeal was made by George Dunlop. This paid special attention to the 'upbringing of children of detainees who died so suddenly after release that one must accept their demise was accelerated by the conditions of their detention'. During the period of its existence the 18B Fund had:

- given sustained assistance to 140 families,
- temporary assistance to over 350 cases,

- after release assistance to 200,
- representation to Government Departments for 143
- found employment for 34 Blackshirts.

Monthly sums had been provided for 180 men and women during detention and the total raised was £6000: a sum equal to £250,000 at today's value.

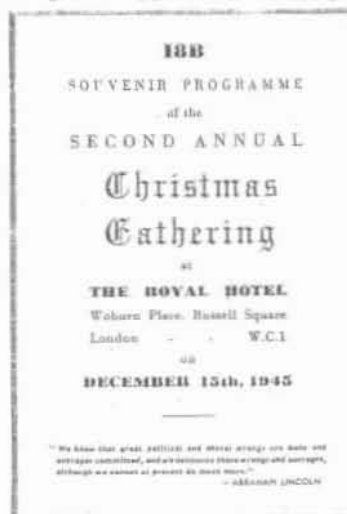
Exactly what this meant to individual Blackshirt detainees is shown in a letter written in 1942 by the late Wally Porter of Salisbury - a former agricultural workers' trade union leader, recently released from the Isle of Man. "I have received a second-hand overcoat in good condition and also a pair of boots. Also they are sending me five shillings a week until I get on my feet again which is a great help, believe me".

A SURPRISE VISIT

The final event was a Christmas gathering on the 15th December 1945 at the Royal Hotel, Woburn Place, Russell Square, London where, amid scenes of wild enthusiasm, The Leader accompanied by his wife, made a surprise appearance. Mosley

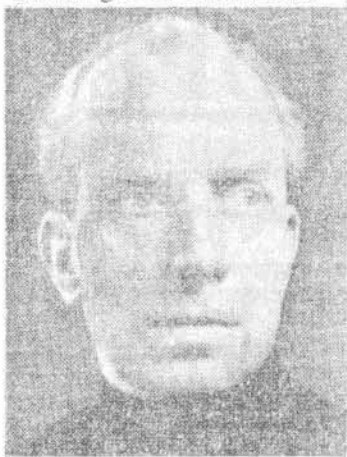


GEORGE DUNLOP
CHAIRMAN OF THE 18B
DETAINEES FUND WAS THE
PRE-WAR B.U.F. NATIONAL
ORGANISING OFFICER



PROGRAMME FOR THE
FINAL 18B SOCIAL

thanked everyone for their loyalty during such dark and troubled times. IT WAS THE FIRST TIME HE HAD HAD THE OPPORTUNITY TO SPEAK TO HIS FOLLOWERS IN OVER FIVE YEARS. The group of people attending was enlarged by ex-detainees and Blackshirts, home from the Services. The estimated number was at least 1200; a figure that it is known caused some concern to the ruling Labour Government.



GEORGE SUTTON

From that point Blackshirt endeavours were concentrated on the publication of the MOSLEY NEWSLETTER edited by his faithful long term private secretary, George Sutton. Also in 1946 Mosley published MY ANSWER. This gave clarity to the years of unanswered lies and allegations during his imposed silence. Within the same volume the seventh edition of the 1938 classic TOMORROW WE LIVE was reprinted. In the face of a total press and book trade boycott, ways were needed to be devised to overcome these obstacles. The answer was the formation of dozens of Book Clubs and Literary Circles around the country. Backed up with posters and cinema advertisements, this made certain the book gained national attention.

PHOENIX BOOK CLUB

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SPREADING THE WORD. A
BOOK CLUB LIBRARY IN
ACTION

No. 6 April - May 1947

MOSLEY

AN ECONOMIC
POLICY
BY
OSWALD MOSLEY
PAGE 3

NEWS LETTER

Editor: G. I. SUTTON

MONTHLY

Price 4d.

THE GREAT BREAKDOWN

Present System or Leadership Principle?

We all live in an economic
crisis which threatens the
life of Britain. Our people feel
the growing pressure of ever
increasing restrictions and suffering.
Last month I suggested a "way
out." You may have agreed or
disagreed, but at least you under-
stood what was meant. Right or
wrong, the policy was definite and
unmistakable. Since then the author-
ity has been denied for
six days in the two houses of Par-
liament, and in endless Press
articles. I defy anyone to out-
line the result in words which
are either definite or intelligible.
Sutton has no more words than
spoken or written to such little
effect. Some of the following
"facts" were magnified; some
were not in it at all. But the
empty words still echo round the
major mouth of the nation.
What concrete policy was sug-
gested from my side? Let anyone
define the policy of the old parties
if he can, in the plain language
that would be policy in those
columns last month. No new
idea, however, on such policy
can be. Mosley's Government are
opponents present over the verge
of a way out.

The reason for this failure was
evident before the debate in the
House of Commons, in the following
words: "I believe, for some of dis-
tinguished methods of
economic reform to be large and com-
plete as they are to be beyond the
scope of any conventional
measures." The governing words
of the distinguished phrase are of
course "by democratic methods."
The same phrase was underlined
after the debate in a leading article
in the Economist, which re-
peated: "The Government was almost
defeated."

FRONT PAGE OF A MOSLEY NEWS LETTER

MARCHING ON

Meanwhile more overt political
activity was taking place in the
form of public meetings and the
distribution of newsheets. Victor
Burgess, founded the UNION OF
BRITISH FREEDOM (U.B.F.)
publishing 'UNITY'. Another
activist was Jeffrey Hamm, a
Welsh schoolteacher by
profession and Blackshirt by
conviction. After internment in
the Falklands and South Africa,
he returned to this country and
was called-up into the Army,
serving in the Royal Armoured
Corps. Inexplicably discharged in
1944, he joined James Taylor,
who had founded the LEAGUE
OF EX-SERVICEMEN, a
breakaway ginger-group in
opposition to the BRITISH
LEGION. As a gifted orator
Hamm espoused the name of
Mosley from his platform, a
brave thing to do while V1
Doodlebugs and V2 Rockets
were falling on the Home
Counties. Despite considerable
opposition people listened in
increasing numbers. He later took
over the running of the

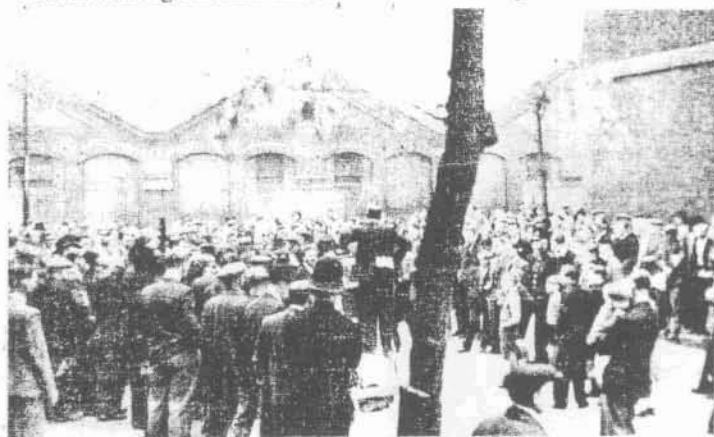


VICTOR BURGESS



JEFFREY HAMM SPEAKING
AT RIDLEY ROAD

organisation and renamed it THE
BRITISH LEAGUE OF EX-
SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN.
With a backdrop of British
servicemen being murdered in
Palestine together with the liberal
use of dynamite and bullets,
Hamm felt honour bound to
protest. Despite hysterical
opposition and on one occasion
being felled by a brick, he fought
back, attracting record crowds
often numbering over 400 people
at each meeting. Another time he



STREET MEETING OF THE BRITISH LEAGUE OF EX-
SERVICEMEN AND WOMEN



JEFFREY HAMM ADDRESSES AN ATTENTIVE AUDIENCE

was arrested for calling the
opposition 'pale pink palpitating
pansies' together with observing
the Prime Minister Clement
Attlee; 'The sort of man who
enters a room in such a way that
you think someone has just gone
out'. For that he was bound over
to keep the peace!

With such record attendances he
made the bold decision to include
Ridley Road, the scene of so
many pre-war Mosley triumphs
to his growing number of venues.
Very soon this developed into
what became known as THE
BATTLE OF RIDLEY ROAD.
Over a period of eight weeks,
friend and foe battled it out. In
the end, Hamm won. A Pamphlet
was later published to celebrate
the fact. In October 1947, against
a groundswell of growing public
interest Mosley published his
polemic 'THE ALTERNATIVE'
which set out in great detail the
way ahead.

A HISTORIC MEETING

A few weeks later on Saturday
15th November 1947 a crucial
meeting took place at the historic
Memorial Hall, Farringdon
Street, London. This was
described as a Winter Sales
Conference of Mosley
Publications. Mosley listened
with interest to secretaries and
supporters of the Book Clubs
together with representatives of
associated pro-Mosley
organisations calling for him to
re-enter the political arena.



JEFFREY HAMM SPEAKING FROM THE BALCONY

Sir Oswald,

I claim to speak for the people who had the courage to fight organised opposition that tried to sweep us from the streets.

For those who did hold meetings in the face of violence, Our meetings closed down, going to the next street corner, broken up again, going again to the next street corner, sometimes starting again as many as four times. Then going to Hackney, to a place of which you have heard where we fought and won the Battle of Ridley Road.

We were prepared to have gone on fighting, but what has and is; holding us back is that we lack a National Leader.

Often the mistake is made of attaching all the importance to the speaker forgetting all the other people who help to make the meeting, the people who sell the literature, who take the collection and hum-drum jobs like that.

Tomorrow we shall be at Ridley Road, we send out an invitation to those in this hall tonight to be there, and join the thousands of British people in raising the cry WE WANT MOSLEY.

Jeffrey Hamm

British League of Ex-servicemen and women

Sir,

When I put my name down I was rather scared to speak at an indoor meeting, I am more used to outdoor meetings, and find speaking in the streets much easier.

We have not given up the struggle, we have fought on, but it is a lonely struggle, and with your genius, your courage, and your inspiration to lead us, in a very short time not only could we have London, but the whole of England right at our feet.

I know that to carry out the theme laid down in THE ALTERNATIVE, we can definitely build a greater and better civilisation, and because of this, my colleagues and I ask you to come back. We pledge ourselves to serve you to the utmost of our ability.

Michael Ryan

Brixton

Sir Oswald,

I and my friends of East London could have, speaking in the parlance of the East End could have 'chucked up the sponge', we never chucked up the sponge, we were inspired by the voice of the past, of the greatest living Englishman, Oswald Mosley. Come back and lead us: come back and lead England.

Duke Pile

East London

Sir,

It has often been said that the British People are not worth fighting for, that may be, so we may think, but the vast majority of the British People in the past have had no clear idea of what our aims are.

But in England today there has arisen a new generation, and I appeal to you as the greatest Leader in this country to cast aside any prejudice or bitterness and come out and lead the fight for the new generation.

Mr Hearn

Paddington

Sir,

I would like first of all to address remarks, not because of my service in the last war, but because of my task in the present day. I am employed, my work takes me in very close contact with these unfortunate people who come within the scope of the Poor Law. I find on my round from day to day a hopeless set of people, who, in the twilight of their lives, are living in misery, which is disgraceful in a country like England. We find much trumpeting that they are going to scrap the Poor Law, and bring into existence National Assistance Boards. They are going to have hotels for the poor and aged. I say this just means that the sign writer instead of putting 'Institution for the Aged' will cross out the word 'Institution' and put 'Hotels for the Aged', and the same building will be there, the same old disgraceful conditions.

Secondly, during the war there were men by my side who served by my side, because they thought they were giving their lives to give greater and fuller lives to their people. These men have been betrayed, I should like to say on behalf of the poor, aged and hopeless people, on behalf of the many Ex-servicemen, on behalf of those men who died in the last war, I should like to ask you on their behalf, will you take the key which you alone hold Sir, break those chains and lead us to the destiny which we can fulfil with you alone as our Leader.

Ken Dick

Salisbury Modern Book Club.

Sir Oswald,

I have been urged on behalf of members of Oxford City and University, which is now open to the vile, corrupt, soul-destroying Communist propaganda, to ask you to return immediately to the political arena and give us Leadership. Most members of the University served throughout the war for high ideals as they believed, but these men are now devoured by a vile corruption of lies.

England needs to be great, but it can only be great if its youth is great. You are the only man that can lead the youth of England, because you are the incarnation of all that is good in the youth of England.

P. Thomas

Oxford Union

Sir Oswald,

I fully recognise the very great contribution you have made in formulating the ideas, which you have expressed in THE ALTERNATIVE, but I and others find it difficult to see how these ideas can ever be brought actually into practice except with your Leadership in a Political Movement once again. In THE ALTERNATIVE, you say that you will be always ready to serve your country in the time of crisis, some of us feel that this crisis is already with us or not far off and the civilisation which you have pictured to us, and which we envisage, can only be won by your return to active politics, and giving us the power to put into practice the idea which you have expressed.

Bob Saunders

Wessex Book Club (Dorchester)

Sir,

I am afraid I am no speaker, but believe my task and my duty lies in the foundation of my living for my children. That is why I, on behalf of my children, and the rest of the children of Britain demand that you-lead us not tomorrow, but from today.

Charles Elliott

Wessex Book Club (Bournemouth)

Sir,

I represent the Union for British Freedom. Many tributes have been paid to your personality and your inspiration tonight, we all know just what your inspiration means to us. We at first met violent opposition, but now the people are crying out for a Leader, and we all know today that they are ready to accept Oswald Mosley as their Leader.

Victor Burgess

Union for British Freedom

Sir Oswald,

When I put my name forward Sir to ask a question, I intended to ask just a simple question which has already been put forward, namely, is Sir Oswald Mosley ready and prepared, like we are, to form, lead and partake in an organisation to carry out the ideas laid down in THE ALTERNATIVE, but as that simple question has already been asked, I put a supplementary question, how can we be worthy of you and your ideas.

Douglas Peroni

Hampstead Literature Society



DURING 1946/7 MOSLEY VISITED A NUMBER OF BOOK CLUBS TO MEET AND TALK TO MEMBERS



A 'FULL HOUSE' AUDIENCE LISTENING TO MOSLEY AT A TYPICAL MEETING

Sir,

I find it rather difficult to follow so many accomplished speakers who have put the very thoughts and words that have been in my own heart for the last seven years, I have waited for this moment, and I know that not only people in this hall, but people throughout the length and breadth of the land would like to hear it. Because they are not here tonight it does not mean that they will not hear the message of this meeting which is conveyed to you by various members of the audience, and by the whole audience as one man. That message will radiate from this meeting throughout the length and breadth of Britain, because we know there is only one hope, only chance alone of saving this country, of saving Europe, and that hope lies alone in your Leadership. I have never lost faith or hope, because I knew that the day would come, in Mosley's own good time, because he alone can be the judge of the right moment, and I know that the time would come when he would again feel that he could save Britain. Now a far longer, far nobler task arises to save the soul of Europe, the whole civilisation, and I know that it has been a great sense of power, a great sense of confidence in the future, to read the inspiring words in that book, it is more than a book, it is a testament, it is the greatest hope for the future. A short while ago I felt like a man looking through a tunnel to eternal darkness, but now the light shines through, and there we see before our eyes the only man that can lead this country. I do not want to take up a lot of time, but I do want to say that this is the moment I have not only waited for, but the moment I have prayed for, I ask you Sir, I don't ask, I demand you, to come back.

Mick Clarke
Bethnal Green



MOSLEY AT FARRINGTON HALL 15TH NOVEMBER 1947

My Friends,

No one could hear the words that have been spoken here tonight by old and beloved friends and by new and fine young spirits without being profoundly moved by that appeal.

It is a thing that I have thought about very deeply ever since my main task of the post war period, the writing of THE ALTERNATIVE was finished. I thought my first task after the war must be to formulate a new idea that was not easy; it took a long time to embody the result of five years reading and thought. It is not easy to formulate and prescribe a new concept of civilisation, it requires deep concentration, and until it was done I did not lift my head or reflect on anything else, it had to be done, and it is done. Since then I have thought about this thing which has been raised here tonight.

We cannot stand aside and see England sink, but no man of my experience would be looking for further tasks of the kind, or burdens of the sort I have to carry. I have no bitterness within me, certainly I do not blame the British people, while even the sneers of the small minded person is something I hope I have never cared anything about but held in contempt. Let them be and let them go, what matters to us is England and Europe.

It is a formidable task, nothing is the same as before the war, my method could not be entirely the same, I have to rely now much more upon the written word than before the war, because it is only by the written word that I can reach the audience I have to reach. My duty and mission to reach out to the wider audience of the European.

In the old days we had to go out into the highways and byways finding men and women and we did find them, set, true, hard as steel, ready to endure, and so that steel framework of our Movement which has stood the test of time arose, and therefore I could, if I wish associated with a political Movement today pursue that policy which I prescribe, content with purely propaganda of the written word, and

Well Sir, I don't think that I can add very much to what has been said tonight. One point on personal experience during the last year when I have been actively in touch with many of the people who have spoken tonight, let us re-dedicate ourselves to the new task ahead.

Don't throw all your burdens on Oswald Mosley, you, every one of you, have got to carry burdens in the future, and realise that if you are going into this great struggle and great task, it is one thing to ask Mosley to lead you, but you have got to play your part, so let us tonight in asking this great man who has suffered so much for Britain to suffer more for Britain, let us re-dedicate ourselves and think not what we have done in the past but what we are going to do in the mighty tasks in the future. We have all suffered, and we suffer more in the humiliation of our country than anything else. We want you, Sir to lead us in order that our ranks might find through union a new born strength. We know that under your leadership and under your Leadership alone, our stricken country can be saved again through the union of all that is best in Britain, and once that is achieved, then again under your Leadership Britain can take her place in the councils of the nations, which she has lost, and can bring about the union of Europe that we wish. We know it is a mighty task, but we must have the inspiration that only you can give tonight again, the flame of great endeavour.

Raven Thomson
West London

great meetings only where local organisations justify great meetings. Now, we are not going to anticipate any decision tonight, I merely say that if the decision is to form a Movement in Britain, the propaganda which I should put out would be far better than anything we had time to do before the war because time prevented it.

I can see ways and means by which skill and determination can carry our propaganda to every man and woman in the country, and eventually when conditions permit, carry our faith right throughout the continent of Europe.

Everyone here has been a deep and living inspiration. I hope, I know what you feel about it, When old friends and new friends have spoken as you have tonight, and when we look at England, we are all conscious of the responsibility that rests on every one of us, a responsibility greater than we have ever known before, I think at least you know this of me, that I shall not flinch, I have always tried to serve the people of this country in the highest aspiration, in that high service alone can we fulfil the Will of God on earth. You have told me what you think my service shall be, I will go and think deeply on these things, you shall have my answer.

My friends I thank every one of you.

Sir Oswald Mosley
European



MOSLEY AT THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF UNION MOVEMENT 7TH FEBRUARY 1948

MOSLEY'S ANSWER

On Friday 28th November 1947, Mosley gave his answer. A press conference was called at 39, South Eaton Place, announcing the formation of UNION MOVEMENT. After setting out the reasons for a European Union, a lively question and answer session followed. It was explained that 51 organisations had agreed to be the nucleus of the new party that would come into being early in the New Year. The launch of UNION MOVEMENT took place on Saturday 7th February 1948 at Wilfred Street School, Westminster with over 300 delegates representing the 51 organisations that initially made up U.M.

THE LONG MARCH TO SANITY HAD BEGUN.

GREGORY MAITLAND ASSERTS COPYRIGHT TO HIS 'DECLARING FOR EUROPE' ARTICLE BOTH IN TEXT AND PHOTOGRAPHS. NO REPRODUCTION WITHOUT WRITTEN PERMISSION.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

MY ANSWER by Sir Oswald Mosley

June 1946 First Edition Hardback, Maroon cover, Grey dust jacket

ESSAY IN FORWARD

Published by Mosley Publications, Crowood House, Ramsbury, Wiltshire.

Printed by the Invicta Press, Horley, Surrey

Incorporating 7th Edition of TOMORROW WE LIVE

Seven Shillings & Six Pence (37.5 New Pence)

June 1946 First Edition Hardback Brown Craze Cover, Yellow Dust Jacket. Printed by BCM/REG. London. WC1. Seven Shillings and Six Pence (37.5 New Pence)

June 1946 First Edition Hardback Grey Cover. Also Brown Details as above (Invicta Press)

June 1946 Book Club Edition Paperback Grey Cover

Details as above (Invicta Press) (price unknown)

August 1946 Second Edition Hardback Straw Cover

Incorporating 8th Edition of TOMORROW WE LIVE

Details as above (Invicta Press)

DECEMBER 1946 Third Edition Paperback Grey Cover

'Cheap Edition'

Incorporating 9th Edition of TOMORROW WE LIVE

Three Shillings & Six Pence (17.5 New Pence)

THE ALTERNATIVE by Sir Oswald Mosley

OCTOBER 1947 First Edition Hardback Dark Blue Cover

Autographed de Luxe numbered edition limited to 250 copies

Published for Mosley Publications by Abbey Supplies LTD

Printed by Thomson and Smith Ltd 17 Chelsea Park Gardens London SW3

One Pound and Five Pence (One Pound 2.5 New Pence)

OCTOBER 1947 First Edition Hardback Straw Cover Black/Red dust jacket

Details as above

Seven Shillings and Six Pence (37.5 New Pence)

OCTOBER 1947 Book Club Edition Paperback White Cover

Details as Above

Two Shillings and Six Pence (12.5 New Pence)



PEOPLE LINE-UP TO JOIN UNION MOVEMENT

I must give myself to this task.

My life striving in the politics of Britain made known my name and character: my voice can now reach beyond the confines of one country, because it has been heard before. The past has imposed the duty of the future:

I must do this thing because no other can.

Sir Oswald Mosley, 1947
Father of Europe A Nation

For the whole of British Union's life, the normal avenues of spreading policy were deliberately denied by the ruling power, unless of course, a story could be worked up into adverse publicity. It therefore fell upon members to be incredibly innovative in getting the message across to the people. They were equal to the task. Hiring and filling the largest halls in the country, hundreds of weekly street meetings, a dedicated number of loudspeaker vans touring the country, recordings, films and a weekly newspaper all helped to press Mosley's case.

One truly original idea was the purchase of an ex-naval motor launch, Named Advance; she spent her summers cruising along the south coast. Under the captaincy of William Henry (Peter) Symes O/C National Transport she would position herself off crowded beaches to deliver the Blackshirt policy via loudspeakers often backed up with shore-based members handing out leaflets. In July 1935, Advance attended the Royal Navy Review at Spithead. Flying the Red Ensign and Fascist flags with a full complement of uniformed Blackshirts, they saluted the King passing on the Royal yacht. Later the launch moved among the fleet exchanging greetings with other visitors.

In 1939 and change of ownership Advance was set to take on a momentous role that was to secure her place in naval history. We are indebted to the late Colin Dick, for this story can now be told in precise detail.

BLACKSHIRT BOAT WAS FIRST TO RESCUE BRITISH TROOPS AT DUNKIRK IN 1940

Shortly before he died, my old friend Eric Piercy asked me to set down the story of the small part we played in the rescue of the British Expeditionary Force from France in 1940 as many inaccurate versions had been told over the years.

Eric first joined Mosley in the New Party and followed him into the BUF where he was Commander of the Fascist Defence Force, which, I believe, later became known as the 'I' Squad. The purpose of this mobile formation was to race around London rescuing Blackshirt speakers from Red assailants: a task that Eric was ideally suited for by temperament and physique. He also had the distinction of being the originator of the Circle-and-Flash symbol, which served as the Movement's motif for many years.

I knew Eric from my days at Black House, the BUF National Headquarters in Chelsea, and later in the 1930s Eric became my personal secretary.

We were both fond of boating and in 1939, I decided to buy a motorised craft. Eric told me of a BUF motor boat that was surplus to requirements: it was owned by Peter Symes who used to sail it along the English Channel to deliver propaganda messages by loudspeaker to holidaymakers sunning themselves on south coast beaches.

I bought the 'Advance' for a Fiver and although it needed a coat of paint, the engine was soon in perfect running order. We spent many weekends aboard it venturing as far from our moorings at Teddington as the

Isle of Wight and Poole Harbour.

When the call went out in the spring of 1940 for small boats to help bring back troops of the beleaguered British Expeditionary Force in France, we immediately set sail for the rendezvous point at Sheerness. We became part of the first flotilla of six motorboats to reach Dunkirk and the 'Advance' had the distinction of being the very first to take war-weary troops off the beach.

Our task was to ferry troops from the shore to the large Royal Navy vessels standing by off the coast and that afternoon we made twenty return journeys and transported around 500 men. Of course, German dive-bombers were constantly strafing us and everything else in sight that moved. One of them flew so low over us that it clipped the top of our mast clean off.

It has been reported that Eric was wounded in this action but this is incorrect: we were only hit by splinters caused by machine-gun fire hitting the ship and they did little personal damage. However, one bomb did land close by, causing the 'Advance' to shoot up at least ten feet above the water — but fortunately, we landed the right way up!

The lowest point was when we saw one of the large Royal Navy ships, on which we had landed

some of our rescue troops, blown to pieces by a direct hit. Few on board could have survived.

By now, four boats from our original flotilla of six had been sunk and the machine gun fire and shrapnel had severely damaged the 'Advance'. We were instructed by the Lieutenant in charge to head for home immediately. The hazardous return journey through mist and floating mines was safely completed with just a single gallon of petrol remaining by the time we made landfall.



BRITISH UNION'S MOTOR LAUNCH 'ADVANCE' ATTENDING THE SPITHEAD REVIEW IN 1935

It has been said that the police were waiting at Dover to arrest us under Regulation 18B but this is not quite true. On our return we were given a day's recovery time whilst the 'Advance' was patched up ready for another sortie on the Monday. In fact they came for us on the Sunday at Eric's house in Sussex whilst we were still picking the splinters out of our flesh. We were arrested in the garden in front of his wife and children as potential traitors who would be most likely to sabotage the war effort given the chance!

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11



A VIEW TOWARDS THE BRIDGE OF 'ADVANCE'. NOTE THE LARGE BLACKSHIRT FLAG FLYING FROM THE MAST HEAD

THE BOLSHEVIK OF BEXLEYHEATH

Melita Norwood, a British master spy in the pay of Russia over four decades has died. Despite unequivocal guilt, she was never arrested, let alone brought to trial. Her treachery began in the early 1930s when she joined the innocuous sounding British Non-Ferrous Metals Research Association. Cultivating a benign, efficient persona, promotion soon followed as secretary to the managing director. In such a position, access was gained to all the firm's papers including secret documents on Britain's research into metallurgy later associated with the atomic bomb.

A left wing family background of the Co-Operative movement, the Workers Educational Association and the Independent Labour Party led her on to joining the Communist Party of Great Britain. Embracing the Russian cause and with recommendation by Andrew Rothstein (a founder member of the C.P.G.B.) she was recruited by the N.K.V.D., who knew her employers were working on nuclear research. In her privileged position she systematically photographed every file, passing on copies to her Soviet masters. Her code name 'Hola' first surfaced when the 1937 Woolwich Arsenal spy ring was exposed. Little was done at the time to track down another, known to be an active spy.

When Anglo-American relations became strained after the war, as America became convinced that leaks were occurring from the British side, the government decided to go it alone, resulting in yet more contracts being placed with her employers. Again, every single document ended up on a Moscow desk.

Because of her communist sympathisers, her blanket security clearance was cancelled in 1951. With the decryption of the 'Verona' papers in 1966, she was finally exposed. This did not stop her. She continued to gain access to sensitive files, passing on copies to her Soviet masters right up to her retirement in the early 1970s. Even then her traitorous past was kept from the public.

To gauge Norwood's importance, it is known that when, due to Stalin's purges, the number of western contacts had to be reduced she was chosen to continue against the temporary dropping of Kim Philby.

Her treachery gained her the secret award of the Order of the Red Banner and a pension. Later when yet more evidence came to light MI5 decided not to prosecute because it 'might have led to criticism for harassing an old lady'. This was backed up by Jack Straw, the then Home Secretary, who followed the same line. Incredibly, she was never even interviewed by our security service.

Without the Mitrokhin files (see Comrade 57) together with the brilliant research of Dr Christopher Andrews she would never have been publicly unmasked. Yet another example of the self elected liberal P.C. lobby that has gained such an insidious grip on the affairs of this country and without doubt can be blamed for a great deal of our current woes.

WANTED

MOSLEY MEMORBILLIA 1896-1980

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Collector wishes to purchase anything connected to the life of Sir Oswald Mosley. Please write in confidence to:
B.M. Talon. London. WC1N 3XX.

DUNKIRK CONTINUED.
FROM PAGE 10



ERIC PIERCY

It has to be said that the Regulation 18B Advisory Committee were much impressed by the story of our service at Dunkirk and even the normally hard-line MI5 did not object when our release from Internment was recommended after about 90 days in prison.

Shortly after, we received an official certificate recording our actions aboard the 'Advance' and helping with the rescue of the BEF at Dunkirk - plus a cheque for £10 each!

What Eric and I did on that day was no more and no less than hundreds of other small boat owners.

But our internment demonstrates the corrupt nature of a perfidious British Government that labelled as traitors and fifth-columnists patriotic men and women who would make any sacrifice to defend the country that they loved.

'Advance' was never listed with Lloyds Register so we do not know the finer details of this historic motor launch. It has now emerged that she was so badly damaged on her return she needed to be beached to save her from sinking. After much needed repairs 'Advance' made another trip to Dunkirk on the 2nd June under the command of S/Lt P. Snow returning to Ramsgate on the 3rd June. Just over a year later, on the 23rd June 1941, she was lost to fire.

As one of the 'Little Ships' associated with 'The Miracle of Dunkirk' its place in National and Blackshirt history is assured.

KENT-WOLKOFF AFFAIR CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

Edmund Ironside who also wanted a negotiated peace with Germany. And although Bryan Clough does not go so far himself, it is surely hard to believe that Liddell and Knight could have resisted the chance to suggest to Anderson that Ramsay must have briefed Mosley on the contents of the secret Churchill-Roosevelt correspondence - a story that could appear in British Union's 'Action' any day unless they were allowed to act.

Vernon Kell, the Director-General of MI5, then used contacts in the Government close to Churchill to ensure that Anderson was leaned on from above.

ANDERSON CAVES IN

Either way, the pressure on Anderson was enough - 48 hours

after Ramsay's arrest he agreed for "about 30" of the leaders of British Union to be interned "to cripple the movement". Within a year, MI5 saw that the "30" grew to over 1,000 British men and women imprisoned without charge or trial under Regulation 18B.

Mosley's principled stand for "Peace with Honour, British Empire Intact and British People Safe" was lost - and Hitler's numerous overtures to the British Government for peace negotiations, confirmed during Goering's interrogation after the War (2), went unanswered.

60-MILLION LIVES LOST

So began the War that could have been avoided. A war that cost the lives of 60-million Europeans - including 366,365 Britons.

Long after the Second World War ended, it is known that Mosley and Lady Diana entertained Maxwell Knight

(retired from MI5 and by then a TV and radio presenter for 'Woman's Hour' and naturalist programmes for children) to tea at their French home outside Paris. Oh, to have been a fly on the wall at that one.

Whatever else, Mosley was clearly a forgiving soul.

Gordon Beckwell

- (1) National Archives ref: CAB120/691
- (2) National Archives ref: AIR20/8693

State Secrets - The Kent-Wolkoff Affair.

By Bryan Clough

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I8B: ONE MAN'S STORY

By Guy Mansell

Claude F P Duvivier was born in Spa, Belgium in 1902. He witnessed at first hand the bloody fighting over his native land during the First World War. Like so many others of his generation, he was revolted by such a catastrophe and was determined to stop a second conflict. By the 1930s he had settled in this country and had taken up farming in the West country. Because of his youthful experiences, he could see sooner than most the drift by design towards a second war. Judging British Union as the one organisation able to stop such a conflict, he joined and rose to become District Leader of Exmouth. A man of exceptional courage, ability and principle he was caught up in the 5th Column hysteria of 1940, and as a result, was to serve one of the longest terms of incarceration under Regulation 18B.

The pattern of events started with an exchange of letters. Duvivier's friend William Crowle, member of B.U.s Devonport branch wrote to his friend on the 1st January 1940.

Dear D.V. (Claude Duvivier)

Many thanks for your letter. I'm much better now and shall soon be leaving hospital. What I'm chiefly writing to you about is to ask you if you would help me provide a story for 'Action' (the weekly B.U.F. newspaper) as you are better known there than I am. It mainly concerns Winston Churchill and I believe it would provide a real "scoop" for 'Action'. Ask them to send down a man to see me if possible, so that I can give him the story direct, only not immediately as I still have a few details to collect. By the way do you know that the Kelly is in port with a hole in her side and 26 dead on board, she was out in the North Sea, also the Vanquisher and Vindictive are damaged, what about being told the truth now eh?

Yours etc. W. Crowle

Duvivier sent on Crowle's letter to Action's editor with a covering note.

6th January 1940

Dear Mr Thomson,

We've just got rid of Horey-Boloney (Hore-Belisha) having resigned his post of Secretary for War now how about a smack at "Winnie the Boo?" (ref made to Winston Churchill at Earl's Court July 1939, who at that time was first Lord of the Admiralty) I'm enclosing this letter from my friend Crowle so that you may read it for yourself. I can vouch for its authenticity; having known and corresponded with him for some time now, also our C.P.O. could vouch for him, he is one of our keenest members in the Plymouth district.

Yours

D.V.

By this time all inward going mail to British Union Headquarters was being

routinely monitored by MI5.

What finer excuse to arrest two Blackshirts (who had no previous convictions) by alleging this correspondence was 'of value to the enemy'. On 30th January 1940 both men appeared at Exeter Police Court charged under the emergency powers (Defence) Regulations of being in possession of a document that would directly or indirectly be useful to an enemy. Subsequently the court heard evidence in camera. On reconvening in public session both men changed their plea to 'guilty' to the charges. Sentence of six months imprisonment with hard labour was passed.

THE FUTILITY OF WAR

In mounting his defence, Duvivier, recalled living through the whole period of the 1914-18 war in Belgium and witnessed the futile results of that colossal upheaval. 'As soon as I saw my opportunity later on I was determined to do all I could to assist in any cause that was out for peace and friendship, realising only too well that another war between Britain and Germany would prove disastrous for all concerned'. In subsequently meeting Crowle in prison he was told that the news about the ships was common knowledge throughout Plymouth because anybody in the Dock area could see them. But as this happened to be recorded in a letter, and the correspondence was evidently being pried into by "MI5", it constituted "a document of value to the enemy" and provided the authorities with a reasonable excuse for having both put out of the way. On the subject of this prying into private correspondence, he

remembered whilst in Exeter prison reading a copy of the prisoner's "Weekly News Sheet", an account of a speech made by Lord Halifax in which he said: "In this great democracy of ours, there will be no prying into peoples correspondence and telephone wires. If that was not slightly ironic to say the least, it certainly struck him as being hypocritical.

In view of the above, he had to admit that it was foolish to have preceded with the matter in the way that he did, namely, enclosing Crowle's letter in a sealed envelope addressed to A. Raven-Thomson Esq., c/o 'Action'.

ACTIONS IN THE CAUSE OF PEACE

During his long imprisonment he wrote ... 'On joining the B.U. a revolutionary organisation, I had no axe to grind, no personal grudge against anybody or anything in particular, I was not one of the down-and-outs or persecuted in business, except that I really did sympathise with my fellow-farmers for the bad treatments they were getting from successive Tory and so-called "National" Governments; I had always more or less had what I wanted, led a pleasant way of life, and was never so happy domestically as when I settled down with an ideal life-partner and we started rearing a little family. Therefore, on joining the B.U. whose motto was "Britain-First", my motives were entirely patriotic, altruistic and, in the cause of peace. On making a careful study of the B.U. policy, I became convinced that not only was Sir O. Mosley an idealist and a realist after my own liking, but that the National-Socialist policy such as advocated by B.U. in "Tomorrow We Live" i.e. by British men, with British methods, for British people, could only but benefit



CLAUDE DUVIVIER

the whole British Commonwealth in general.

With these facts in mind then, and as the years sped by it became more and more obvious that we were drifting towards war, my actions and writings would, I quite agree, demand some elucidation by those who still do not understand the real causes of this war and the British Union ideology. Having acquainted myself with what I firmly believed to be the truth behind the whole ghastly business I became almost a fanatic. I regarded it as my duty towards my fellow-creatures to impart to them this knowledge, and to warn them of the impending dangers. There are many people on this Britain of ours who were fully aware of the truth, but who for various reasons, dared not open their mouths. (Some might say that I at any rate had nothing to lose; on the contrary, by landing myself in prison and detention I have jeopardised the whole of my family life, the company of my dear wife and children which I value more than anything in this world.) As time went on the Press agitation against Germany grew in intensity, and the people were duly taken in by this, it was the daily drip-drip of journalistic poison that did the trick. The dogs of war were barking, "Cry Havoc" Only Mosley stood out, like a solid rock amidst the oceans, for peace and sanity. In my view then, every action taken by Germany to wipe out the injustices of the Versailles Treaty and to consolidate her frontiers and armed forces were fully justified, in the sense that had we been placed in a similar position, we would have done likewise, or been unworthy of the name of Britons.

For me, and for many others who knew the real issues of this conflict, it was not now a cause of "my country right or wrong", how could it be? Were not the British people duped into this war in the belief that they were going to the help of Poland? Yet on that very morrow of that declaration of war on Germany Chamberlain did proclaim, and others after him have reiterated throughout, that this is a war for "the destruction of Nazism", i.e. National-Socialism in other words, an ideological war. Wretched Poland had merely been encouraged by Britain to adopt an increasingly hostile attitude towards Germany so that the "Corridor" problem would provide the powder-barrel. Hence the bitterness and the hatred engendered by this conflict.

A CHANGE OF VENUE

Having served their sentence, both defendants were not released but caught under Regulation 18B. A dreary round of prisons ensued finally landing at Douglas, Isle of Man on 12th June 1941. Over the next three years Claude Duvivier had plenty of time to reflect on his actions and the law that ensnared him.

He wrote: "We are told that the purpose of Regulation 18B is to ensure Public Safety" and that: "Detention under 18B is for custodial purposes only and not intended to be punitive". In other words we are merely being held on suspicion of what we might do. At the time when mass detentions were taking place in May, June and July 1940, (The "Fifth Column") Sir John Anderson, then Home Secretary made the following statement to the press. "This action has not been taken because of the opinions held or expressed by these people or because of their propaganda activities, but because the organisations of which they are leading members might be used in the execution of acts prejudicial to the security of the State".

Previous to appearing before the Advisory Board Duvivier was handed an indictment sheet on which were detailed the "particulars" which prompted the Home Secretary "to have reasonable cause to believe" that you would have been a danger to Public Security had you been allowed to remain at large. On the indictment he was accused of acts prejudicial to the public safety.

"In January 1940 you procured information which included

details of damage to and movements of H.M. ships and prepared to forward this information to the Editor of "Action" a publication of the organisation known as British Union, of which you were a member"

Duvivier's response was forthright: "You say by this that I am not only held for an "offence" for which I officially did six months hard labour but in reality did 12 months all told in various prisons and had there been any Justice should have been released on completion of sentence".

Having failed the first hearing he was later granted a second appeal for release on 15th January 1942. "I personally did not entertain much hope, but I thought I would have a good try, especially as Crowle had been successful. I did so merely because I am fonder of my wife and children, than I was of kicking my heels in an Internment Camp, one only had to "spin 'em a yarn", "promise to be a good boy" and out you went. But no! the evidence against me is too patent, and in writing. You cannot deny what you have written so easily as you could the spoken word, and my result, of course a foregone conclusion was "Further detained"

Summing up on my own Committee, Mr Stolt was good enough to say, and I am very grateful to him for it, that: "**In effect Mr Duvivier you were not really anti-British, but just anti-Government**" And that I'm sure that is fair enough and as near to the truth as could be.

I was anti-Government primarily, because striving for Peace and friendship was Germany was entirely in the interests of my fellow creatures I saw the British Government increasingly becoming a war-government, not in the interests of the British people but in the interests of International-Finance.

In contrast, if we had stuck to a policy of "Minding Britain's Business", i.e. the Empire's business, we would not to-day be witnessing the sorry spectacle of what has occurred and is still occurring.

Claude Duvivier was finally released on 26th July 1944 one of the longest serving detainees of the infamous 18B law. He returned to his beloved family and once again took up farming. His spirit still strong, he often wrote and got published, letters to the papers pointing out the consequences of the war.

THE FIGHT GOES ON

Sir, - It began in September 1939, when Russia halved Poland with Nazi Germany. The same year, Finland was attacked and the Finnish frontier pushed back. In June 1940, the Rumanian frontier suffered the same fate. In August, the Baltic States of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania were incorporated in the Soviet Union.

In June 1942, the Germans attacked Russia and flooded 800 miles eastward as far as Stalingrad.

Then in 1943 the tide turned again and Russia began to move westward once more.

Now in 1947, either by setting up satellite Governments or plain military occupation, Russia's political frontiers stand west of the Elbe and the Danube.

Beyond these rivers Soviet pressure is exerted upon Italy and Greece in the west and on Turkey and Persia in the south. In the Far East, the Chinese have also felt the encroaching weight of the largest State of the world.

In all countries a well organised and disciplined Communist party stands ready to carry out the orders of the Communist Party Supreme Command, which has its headquarters in Moscow.

Sir, - "they brought this disaster upon themselves and they must face the consequences". It is to me incomprehensible that a man like Field-Marshal Montgomery could have said such a thing without his tongue in his cheek. What sort of effect does he suppose that statement will have on the German people? He claims to be a man who likes to face facts, then with all due respects to the venerable Field Marshal, I should like to remind him and others of a few undeniable facts that for reasons of expediency no doubt, it is fashionable just how to ignore. At the outset it was Britain who declared war on Germany thereby unnecessarily spreading the war to Northern and Western Europe with the dire consequences that we are now all lamenting, and in its final stages it was the Allied day and night total bombing which reduced German cities and their inhabitants to their present state of "threatening disease", coupled with the openly admitted starvation blockade of the Continent of Europe which in turn was visited on the unfortunate inmates of the Belsen and Buchenwalds. This is how the German "man in the street" knows facts, which, I repeat, are undeniable. Yet Germany sought nothing but the hand of friendship from this country.

Sir, - Are we prepared to sacrifice all, to do all, not that Britain may be great, but that Soviet Russia, already great may be even greater? That a gigantic sprawling Soviet shall dominate Europe and Asia from Gibraltar to Vladivostok, bringing in its wake a "slavery worse than death" - as Mr Churchill describes it - to friend and foe alike. For that, in short is the issue before us.

All ideals have now gone by the board, and the sole arbiter of our people's destinies is force - brute and mechanized force.

Let us look a stark, staring fact in the face; if the Soviets are permitted to bind Europe to their will, Britain's fate is sealed.

Let us not forget, however, that much of our great achievements in the past have been due to that unique quality of the Englishman - the hard head and the soft heart. What a tragedy if these adjectives were in our generation to be transposed! For depend upon it

Sir, - You ask "What lies behind the obstructive policy of Mr. Molotov?"

I suggest the answer is to gain delay for the purpose of consolidating Russia's recently-acquired territories such as Poland, Roumania, Bulgaria, &c., the acquisition being camouflaged under the guise of fostering democratic Republics. Only very Simple Simons in this country are now deceived by such make-believe.

Russia, as Earl Russell has stated, is pursuing an old Imperialistic policy, which must be at the expense of some other Imperial nation. Germany, Russia's age old rival, has been knocked out, so the field is left free.

It bodes no good to this country as we will all discover some-day, when we have to say to Russia: "Stop or -"

unconditional surrender enforced on Germany today will mean unconditional surrender of another country tomorrow - that of Great Britain to the Euro-Asian-Soviet.

Sir, - International finance will probably consider that it has had a good war; some of us avowed before the war started that one of its main objects would be aggrandisement of the United States and Soviet Russia at the expense of the British Empire.

Claude Duvivier a convinced Mosleyite died on 6th October 1978 aged 76 years. Once again, Comrade is proud to highlight a singular story of courage and honesty from the hundreds of thousands who followed Mosley.

Dr Robert Forgan, an almost forgotten name in the history of British Union. He was second in command of the Movement and his role as Director of Organisation influenced the entire history of its being.

DR ROBERT FORGAN: DEPUTY LEADER OF THE BRITISH UNION 1932-1934

By Guy Mansell

Born the only son of a Scottish clergyman, he grew up in Aberdeen attending the local grammar school. His chosen career of medicine clashed with the outbreak of World War One, when he was designated a Special Reserve Medical Student. Just four weeks after successfully taking his final exams he was sent to France, entering the bloody world of trenches, field hospitals and administering to the dying. He was later awarded the Military Cross for bringing the wounded out under fire. When asked how he survived over such a long period he said "Not being in the front line all the time".

NEVER AGAIN

Like so many others such raw experiences followed through into post-war life. His later position as Medical Officer of Health for Lanarkshire County Council brought him to encounter the notorious slum conditions in Glasgow. Overcrowding, poor sanitation and violence contrasted with a listless Council unwilling to get things improved. His driving force was in social needs not politics but as he said "**Of necessity it forced my interest in politics in order to get things done**". He met Jimmy Maxton, Leader of Glasgow's Independent Labour Party, who advised him to join the Labour Party. Standing as a candidate for Glasgow Town Council and founding a protest group, **The Slum Abolition League**, brought him into conflict with his employers who said his political work was interfering with his medical duties. His memorable

reply was that "his medical duties were interfering with his political work" and promptly resigned.

PEOPLE'S JUSTICE

In 1929, he was elected M.P. for West Renfrew. Then a second shock "Westminster was nothing more than a talking shop. Not much action. A lot of hot air about". His passion for social justice naturally drew him to another M.P. whose similar ideals were being sorely tested. Returned for Smethwick, Sir Oswald Mosley, Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster was the minister charged with solving the unemployment problem. Sniped at and undermined at every turn by members of the Cabinet, both Mosley and Forgan came to the conclusion that Labour was doing little more than propping-up the existing order.

On 8th December 1930 the **Mosley Manifesto** was published. Signed by sixteen Labour M.P.s together with the



DR ROBERT FORGAN M.P.

miners leader, A.J. Cook, it called for, among other policies, massive funding on road building and slum clearances. As a signatory Forgan worked closely with Mosley and his wife Cynthia to increase awareness of such revolutionary proposals. With little response, Mosley decided to go it alone by forming a fresh political group, **The New Party**. When the time came for action,



CYNTHIA MOSLEY M.P. ADDRESSING THE FIRST MEETING OF THE NEW PARTY



DR FORGAN ATTENDING A PARK LANE DINNER

only four M.P.s stayed with Mosley. John Strachey, member for Aston, Birmingham. Cynthia Mosley, member for Stoke-on-Trent. W.E.D. Allen, member for West Belfast and Dr Robert Forgan, member for West Renfrew. The promises of the remainder as Mosley observed "Melted like snow upon the desert's dusty face, for the good reason that the sun was still shining".

During February and March 1931 headline resignations from the Labour Party took place. When the Prime Minister, Ramsay MacDonald heard of Forgan's intention he called him into Downing Street and spent an hour trying to dissuade him from resignation. **A true measure of the importance of the man to Labour.**



ACTION NEWSPAPER ARTICLE BY DR. FORGAN

THE TRYING TIME

The initial work of founding The New Party was often blighted by Mosley's reoccurring bouts of illness. Dr Forgan would often join Cynthia Mosley in deputising at pre-arranged meetings around the country. Later the same year, with the country descending into even deeper crisis, the Labour Party and its Communist acolytes turned with full fury on Mosley, at what was perceived as treacherous behaviour. At one meeting, it was reported that the crowds were ready to lynch Mosley once he left the speaker's platform. Typically with just a handful of followers Mosley



A PACKED AUDIENCE LISTENS TO THE CASE FOR THE NEW PARTY



MOSLEY SPEAKING AT A NEW PARTY OUTDOOR MEETING. DR FORGAN CAN BE SEEN ON MOSLEY'S RIGHT

walked straight through the middle of the protestors without mishap, remarking "This is the crowd which has prevented anything being done in England since the war".

Once the disastrous General Election results were known, Mosley knew the days of the New Party were numbered. "Smother tactics led to our inevitable defeat, we had to reform not just policy but organisation to meet an entirely new situation". In dissolving the New Party but retaining its Youth Section, Mosley wrote its epitaph and emphasised his determination;

"Better the great adventure, better the great attempt for England's sake, better defeat, better far the end of that trivial thing called a political career, ...we shall win; or at least fall upon our shields"

REVOLUTIONARY THINKING

In January 1932, in the company of Harold Nicholson he went to Italy to study the concept of a

government that was getting things done. He met Mussolini and became convinced the way forward was to adapt what he saw to take on the forces of 'do little'. At this point, Forgan was sent to visit the existing rightist political groups, with a view to uniting under one banner. In the case of Arnold Leese, the answer was rounded abuse. "Mosley was nothing more than a Koshier Fascist, Conservatism with knobs on". The increasingly alcoholic Rotha Linton-Orman turned down the idea but a disillusioned membership simply resigned and went over to Mosley, the greatest 'capture' being Neil Francis Hawkins who was later to become a major figure in the movement. The final agreed title was **The British Union of Fascists** genuinely reflecting the membership if not organisation.

BECOMING A MAJOR FORCE

The work of forming a political party is enormous. Forgan's designation as **Deputy Leader and Director of Organisation**

was crucial, he certainly rose to the challenge and succeeded. Apart from the separate arms of Defence and Publications the entire structure flowed out from his office, eighteen hour days were not uncommon. Fledgling departments were natured, grown and hived off into fully functioning entities. Registry, Research, London Command, F.U.B.W., Legal, Foreign Relations, Medical, Political,

Gilmour, a candidate in the New Party General Election who followed Mosley into B.U. Apart from office work, Forgan was deputed to meet 'names' in order to try to persuade them of the rightfulness of Mosley's policies and hopefully solicit funds. He twice went to Italy and met with Mussolini handing him, on one occasion, a signed and dedicated copy of Mosley's book, *The Greater Britain*.



DR FORGAN AND SIR OSWALD AT THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY DINNER OF THE FOUNDING OF BRITISH UNION. WITHIN DAYS, FORGAN HAD RESIGNED ON THE GROUNDS OF ILL HEALTH

DR. ROBERT FORGAN

Ill Health Causes Retirement

It is with great regret that we announce Dr. Forgan's resignation from the position of second in command of the British Union of Fascists, rendered necessary by the state of his health. The serious illness through which he passed three years ago left permanent impairment; and the heavy burden of work which devolved on his shoulders last winter did not improve his condition. It was hoped, with the strain relieved to some extent by the re-arrangement of duties at National Headquarters in the spring, that he might be enabled to continue his work as Deputy-Leader, a position in which his tact and good humour won many friends both for the Movement and for himself. That expectation has, unfortunately, not been realised.

Into his retirement from active work in the B.U.F. Dr. Forgan will take with him heartiest good wishes for his complete restoration to health, and the hope that he may live to see the triumph of the Movement which he did so much to build and direct in its early days.

HEADLINE IN BLACKSHIRT ANNOUNCING DR FORGAN'S RETIREMENT

even Catering was initiated by Forgan. A snapshot of the Research Department's dedication illustrates the professionalism that ran through the organisation. All daily and weekly national newspapers were read, membership sent in a continuous flow of stories from the provincial press. Translators were engaged to read the world's press. Speaker's notes were regularly issued. The chosen head of the department was William

A CHANGE OF DIRECTION

Two years after British Union's founding and with many departments working at capacity thanks to his foresight and energy he resigned on grounds of ill health. He was never again to enter politics. Bizarrely some time after leaving B.U. he visited the offices of the Jewish Board of Deputies and spoke with Messrs Laski and Blonstein presumably in order to secure a medical position, this approach came to nothing. Not wishing to go into general practice, he later became a corporate medical adviser. After the war he applied to rejoin the Labour Party but was turned down. He died on January 8th 1976.

Forgan was a key figure in the early days of Mosley's campaign to build a better Britain. Contrary to current thinking he is known to have said that Cynthia Mosley was fully committed to British Union and would have made her mark had she lived. This does hold credence, as he was the one person who over four years had worked most closely with her.

At British Union's founding meeting in Trafalgar Square on the 15th October 1932 this self-effacing kindly man preferred to listen to Mosley from the audience instead of taking his rightful place among the Blackshirted members on the plinth. With such humility and dedication a hallmark of so many, Mosley should have won.



JUST GOOD FRIENDS. DR FORGAN WITH CYNTHIA MOSLEY DURING LABOUR PARTY DAYS

A BLACKSHIRT IN NORMANDY

Following the much appreciated 'How the B.U.F. came to Geordieland', the editor of Comrade suggested to D Day paratrooper Robert Richards that he may like to write about his 6th June 1944 drop into Normandy. Despite initial reluctance, he finally agreed. In this concluding article, we follow his war behind enemy lines. It is fitting to remind readers that while Robert Richards survived to tell how it really was, Captain Charles Greenwood of the 8th Btn Parachute Regiment, another Blackshirt, barely survived 24 hours as one of the first shock troops in the invasion of fortress Europe.

D DAY + ONE

Those of us who were fortunate enough to have survived the 1.00am, night-drop on the 6th June, and 36 hours of being mortar bombed and shelled with very little respite, felt satisfied with our performance – to date. Our Platoon strength was now about 17 out of 33 who had parachuted into blackness, 36 hours previously. A measure-of-time in the circumstances, which seemed to me without reality.

In the ensuing days Robert Richards became a casualty thankfully still able to walk from a front line dressing station back to a field hospital. With typical modelsty it is not recorded how or where he was wounded.

Frankly, my story isn't exceptional. No 'Rambo' stuff, no mighty warrior, etc... Just a good performance as part of a highly (and expensively) trained combat team. On stage from 6th to 13th June; then making a walk-off exit from the battlefield. Admittedly the 'shank's-pony' was over a mile and half during which I came across Lovat's Commando's well dug-in by the roadside. They had had me under observation for over 5 minutes, mistaking me for a Panzer grenadier (the British paratroopers' battle costume had, at a distance, a similarity). They challenged me at about 30-40 yards, with a code-word.

After a brief exchange I discovered that their immediate concern was food! Their role was that of 'out-post watch', and they were convinced that their Q.M. had forgotten them. Fortunately I was familiar with their surroundings which happened to be where my Platoon had first rendezvoused after the 'drop' on the 6th, also where the first advance glider troops had come in at 3.00am. Some of those gliders, alongside the road-hedge, I knew had seven-day ration packs inside them. This information I passed on. Leaving one on watch, the other accompanied me, and sure enough the first glider we entered was an 'Aladdin's-cave' to a hungry man!

Well, he cursed and swore, rushed out of the glider stuck his head through the hedge and called to his mate and put him, in a colourful-way, in the picture. *Saying to me, very expressively,*

that they had been manning that slit-trench for about 24 hours without food of any kind having been got to them – now all this and only ten yards away.

Leaving the two troopers of Lovat's Commando happily stuffing themselves, I set off on the remaining ½ mile to the Divisional Aid Post.

Thereafter it was just a matter of a quick examination, then hurriedly squeezed into an ambulance containing two stretcher casualties, and off on a very bumpy journey, first crossing the 'two Bridges', to a Field Hospital near the British Landing Beach, Arromanches.

A BLIGHTY ONE

The hospital ward comprised: stretcher beds with one blanket (walking casualties); we were relieved of our webbing battle equipment having first being asked if we were carrying grenades and or small mortar bombs, etc... We were told to retain personal small-arms and one clip of ammunition and told to ensure that it was unloaded; nevertheless every weapon was checked to ensure that our weapon was unloaded during the first few minutes of arrival and, at the same time another orderly was attaching a large envelope-label to the button-hole of the breast-pocket of our uniform-blouse. Then this was followed up with the distribution of a mug and an unopened can. 'If you don't know how to use that can don't do anything!', we'll show you' This was an emphatic instruction: 'Don't do anything!' Whilst all this was happening we were also being told: 'You can remove your boots, but nothing else!'. This sounded the most 'wonderful' invitation I had ever heard!! 'I could actually take my boots OFF'. They had last been off my feet on the night of 4th June!! – Bliss.

The fuss about the can was because they were self-heating and apparently could easily scald if not operated with care. Nothing very complicated really but, with battle-conditioned patients, common sense was sometimes unreliable; the problem of war-wounds was quite enough without being aggravated by accidents in hospital.

'Why?', came a question: 'Why keep our arms and ammo?' The answer came brusque and

laconic: 'You're all still in a 'battle-zone', you could be called upon to fight at a moment's notice'. A hush fell; 'Try and get some sleep – Goodnight!'. In moments, some conversation restarted, but already the sounds of heavy sleep were beginning to dominate. Even the fringes of nearby long-range artillery and the consequent earth vibration had no effect. Tired men, nay, exhausted men. Not one of whom had not fallen asleep without the thought in their minds about how their comrades they had left behind were faring – still with their boots – ON.

Came dawn and we were roused; instructed to be ready to move when called. After getting my boots on, I went looking for a wash and a shave. This would be my third shave since 5th June – my last shave was at the bottom of a slit-trench using the last dregs of cold tea. Mortaring had recommenced before finishing the shave, nevertheless, the shave was completed and the razor-blade wiped. (The Paratrooper prided himself upon always, yes, always, being properly shaved – battle or no battle! The only reason we did not polish our boots was because the glint may draw sniper-fire).

Following a medical check whilst stripped to the waist and washing myself, my label was duly marked by a medical Sgt., acting on the M.O.'s instructions. Asking the Sgt. Orderly what was to happen next, he said, 'we'll call you when the transport is ready to take you to the Beach – don't forget to take your arms with you'. Eventually the call came, the transport was a small utility-truck. In a few minutes we arrived at the Beach and first handed-in our arms and ammo. For the first time I experienced quite a strong and strange reaction! to be without arms! At last it struck me: I was really 'hors-de combat'! Yet, still on my feet! It was hard to accept emotionally.

We were ferried out to the U.S. Hospital Ship lying off-shore. The stretcher-borne casualties were streaming-out, load after load. In a very short time the ship was underway. The rapidity of the loading and getting underway forced a realisation that it was not the thought of getting the wounded back to the U.K., for

treatment etc., but the necessity for the Ship to get back and reload. The battlefield clearance of casualties was a high priority. All to do with morale. As England hove into sight I recalled the 6th Airborne Division slogan for the Normandy Airborne Assault was 'Go-to-it' something that rather optimises my approach is to life in general.

POSSCRIPT

Being on of Mosley's earliest Blackshirts in the North East, Robert Richards remained convinced of the leader's cause. In the immediate post-war period he initiated the Salisbury Modern Book Club, one of the organisations that ultimately merged into the founding of Union Movement. Later. On joining the Government Service, he reluctantly resigned U.M. membership. After service in the Dominions, he returned to his native North East. He holds the T.A. and C.D. Corps long service medals and in 1953 was presented with the Queens Coronation medal for voluntary service during the North Devon and North East coast flood disasters.

A man of the greatest integrity who was prepared to stand by his beliefs in the face of tremendous odds.

Yet again, it is possible to salute a brave Mosley man who fought politically to stop the Brothers' War but was prepared to take up arms on behalf of his country once war was declared and later embraced the doctrine of a United Europe.

European Socialism Automation Problem and Solution Wagner and Shaw

All three articles written by Sir Oswald Mosley for The European – the journal of opposition, were then issued as booklets.

Friends of Mosley can offer these as one lot £5.00 post-free. Please make cheques payable to F.O.M. and send to: B.C.M./F.O.M. London. WC1N 3XX.

Note: These are originals not later and inferior reproductions!

BOOK REVIEWS



In March 1992, a seventy year old man walked into the British Embassy in one of the newly free Baltic States and asked to speak to

'someone in authority'. The English diplomat he met was handed a number of documents said to be copies made from secret Kremlin files. Over a cup of English tea, the retired KGB officer convinced the diplomat that his haul was genuine. A month later he returned with over two thousand closely typed pages of highly compromising information. After scrutiny by top MI6 experts arrangements were made for the man and his family to be exfiltrated to the West together with six trunk loads of documents.

This was to be the greatest feat of counter espionage ever known. Vasili Nikitich Mitrokhin, a Russian career 'diplomat' used as cover for spying with service in numerous overseas postings had been recalled to Moscow to join the First Chief (Foreign Intelligence) Directorate. His exposure to the innermost workings of the party often made his own political views side with the high profile dissidents of the time, such as Solzhenitsyn, Bulgakov and Pasternak. This lead him to question foreign policy and the way facts were censored by the time they got, if ever, into the public domain. As a 'loner' his increasing disillusionment never seeped out. Later, promotion meant he was in charge of moving the entire secret State Archive housed in the Lubyanka to new customised headquarters at Yasnovo a few miles outside Moscow. Over a period of twelve years Mitrokhin had a unique overview of the States innermost secrets from 1917 to current times. A growing realisation of how the nation was being duped, he decided to make selective and detailed notes of all the documents that daily passed across his desk. Needless to say it took a man of iron will and enormous courage to fully understand the risk he was taking. One slip and a dank, dark cellar with a single bullet to the back of the neck would, undoubtedly been his fate. He did his job so well that Vladimir Kryuchkov the Head of Foreign Intelligence complemented him on his work.

Dear Vasili Nikitich, The collective's employees wish you a very happy 60th birthday. You devoted 40 years of your life to the state security service and for 35 years you were a member of our glorious Communist Party. In the glorious ranks of the Soviet Chekists and in advancing its work, you devoted all of your strength, knowledge and energy to serving our Socialist Motherland.

In the discharge of your responsibilities, you received Government decorations and were an inspiration to the head of and the Committee for State Security.

Dear Vasili Nikitich, today, on the day of your jubilee, please accept our heartfelt good wishes of health, happiness and also of success in your work in the future for the sake of our motherland.

Safely on Great Britain the wish to publish his papers was realised in 1999. When in association with the leading intelligence expert Dr Christopher Andrew **The Mitrokhin Archive The KGB in Europe and the West** was published.

The book caused a sensation. Earlier, in December 1996, a German magazine reported a rumour that A KGB officer had defected to Britain with 'the names of hundreds of spies' immediately a Russian spokesman replied that this was impossible. A couple of agents perhaps, but never hundreds, that was impossible. In fact, Mitrokhin exposed Thousands of Soviet agents around the globe. In gratitude, the British Intelligence Security Committee wrote a unanimous report that included the passage:

The committee believes that he is a man of remarkable commitment and courage, who risked imprisonment or death in his determination that the truth should be told about the real nature of the KGB and their activities, which he believed were betraying the interests of his own country and people. He succeeded in this, and we wish to record formally our admiration for his achievement.

For too long, we have been waiting for the second volume, **The Mitrokhin Archive II the KGB and the World** has now been published, this book covers Russian policy in Africa, Asia and South America.

The 676 pages teem with information.

One astonishing fact to emerge was the faith the Kremlin placed in the Third World. It was

thought it held the key to winning the cold war.

We learn what the Russians really thought of the much lionised Salvador Allende.

The covert operations in Idra Gandhi's India.

The plot to break Rudolf Nureyev's leg or as succinctly put 'lessening his professional skills'.

Afghanistan in war and defeat, an interesting read as an area remaining in the news.

Mitrokhin died on 23rd January 2004. His wish had been fulfilled. Up to the day of his passing he had been working on the second book proofs.

This country and the free world owe him greatest debt for confirming the true face of Soviet power.

At the very least, a statue should be erected in his honour, preferably in sight of the Parliament of Westminster, if only as a constant reminder to feckless 'Parliamentarians' that truth will out.

Often from the most unexpected sources.

G.H.

The Mitrokhin Archive II: the KGB and the world.

Christopher Andrew and Vasili Mitrokhin

Published by Allen Lane

ISBN: 0-713-99359-6

£30.00



"I feel Very ill. Call the doctors". The momentous last words of Mao Tse-tung A.K.A. The Great Helmsman of China.

After a lifetime of tyranny, the all-powerful 82 year old head of state finally succumbed on the 9th September 1976. Surprisingly thirty years on and despite his well documented crimes, Mao is still revered, with daily queues in Tiananmen Square lining up to view his corpse.

The Gang of Four, Power comes from the barrel of a gun, The Great Leap Forward, The Little Red Book, Let a Hundred Flowers Bloom. all come to mind when thinking about a man who controlled over a quarter of the world's population. For the first time this 814-page book breaks the taboo of seeing Mao as anything other than an omnipotent being. The authors, Jung Chang and Jon Halliday have bravely, but perhaps, with some tacit approval of China's current libertarian rulers, spent ten years travelling the world meeting people who at some time in their lives crossed Mao's life—

and survived. Amazingly, the authors were allowed into China to speak to many of Mao's inner circle who spoke on record for the first time about such a sensitive subject. The result is devastating in the condemnation of Mao's life. The myth of the long march, welcoming the Japanese invasion of China, the relationship with Stalin, all are minutely examined and the discovery that by the age of 24, Mao had rid himself of any moral conscience. He was a man who cared nothing for his family or closest political comrades or feeling responsibility or guilt for the deaths of 70 million by execution or famine.

Just one revelation from hundreds illustrates the cruelty of the man. In May 1972 the urbane Premier Chou En-lai was diagnosed with Cancer. This information, on the orders of Mao, was kept from Chou together with the fact that an urgent operation was needed. Why? The Great Helmsman schemed to ensure Chou did not

survive him. Two years later, the delayed operation was performed but because of the delay, there was only one outcome. Chou died on 8th January 1976. The plan had worked.

How do you hold a nation of multi-time zones and languages together? This is perhaps why the present leadership with its headlong and successful rush into capitalism, still evokes the memory of the old tyrant to instil a form of mass obedience.

This book cannot be more highly recommended, if only to arm the reader with enough information to metaphorically poke a finger in the eye with facts, facts, facts, to those fellow travellers who for years marched around this country to the strains of The Red Flag or The East is Red.

READ IT.

Mao: the untold story.

Jung Chang and Jon Halliday.

Published by Jonathan Cape

ISBN: 0-224-071262

£25.00



Just when it was thought the last word had been written about William Joyce, yet another book is published, with a

rumoured further academic tome yet to come. How much more can be turned into hard-backed editions about a man who, without the notoriety of broadcasting from Germany in wartime and paying the ultimate price, would scarcely merit a footnote in history.

Joyce was no fool. A first in English from London University, postgraduate studies in Philosophy and Psychology. Fluent in French and German who for relaxation swapped postcards in Latin with his friend Angus Macnab. His lifelong fault line was an ever growing hatred of Jews dating back to his teenage years as a member of Rotha Linton-Orman's British Fascisti. This spiralled disproportionately into his later role as Director of Research and Area Administrator for the British Union. The Mosley line of blaming Jews for what they did and not for what they were was too soft for Joyce.

In 1937 a cash crisis within British Union had to be addressed with over 80% of staff needing to be made redundant, Joyce by then was becoming extreme in his pro-German views took his dismissal very hard. He stormed off to launch a rival political party backed by Alec Scrimgeour, a retired stockbroker who had earlier tried to suborn Mosley into taking a stronger view on the Jewish question that had been flatly rejected. The emergent National Socialist League issued a few leaflets, designed a badge, held a few street corner meetings and promptly faded away. Matters were not helped by the death, the same year, of his financial backer.

With the inevitability of war drawing closer and a tip-off from his MI5 handler warning him of imminent arrest (he was in the pay of the British Secret Service) a decision had to be made, flee to Ireland or Germany. His opting for the Fatherland sealed his long-term fate.

On a technical point, Joyce was not guilty of High Treason, having been born in New York. A blood-lusting executive conveniently ignored the fact and Joyce offered little defence at his trial, which brings us to the premise of Farndale's book. Did Joyce do a deal to save his equally guilty wife from the noose? No firm evidence is offered but it may well be true. Margaret, after being shuffled around a number of European internment camps, quietly and without Government objection returned to this country, remarried and died an alcoholic in 1972.

This 'Meticulously Researched' biography regrettably descends on occasions into crass language and false assumptions. Why 'Mosley's Goons' Action newspaper was founded in 1936, not 1933. Mosley being unable to visit Germany in August 1933

because he was writing The Greater Britain. It was published on 1st October 1932. The photograph pointing out Joyce on the same trip is incorrect. The featured man is Capt. John Holliman.

A warning to female members by Maud, Lady Mosley (Mosley's mother) to be aware of predatory high officials within the Movement turns into a side swipe at her adored son.

Carrying on the sexual innuendo the unsubstantial claims against Neil Francis-Hawkins are given greater prominence than ever seen in print.

"A flamboyant homosexual" "The Black House ... A haven for gay men" ... "Surrounded himself with admiring young fellow travellers". Farndale then borrows from other authors writing about the German model to press his case. Even dear old Sylvia Plath is roped into the argument.

A reality check comes with reference to a long serving member, who as a very young man was an activist in those Black House days. He unequivocally says that if these allegations had a grain of truth Eric Piercy would not have tolerated any such behaviour and with his position as Officer Commanding National Defence Force Control would have shown Francis-Hawkins the door.

To the unknowing, who will be the majority of readers these 'facts' perpetuate into history. The most extraordinary allegation is to suggest that Joyce was the Deputy Leader of the party and might well have taken over had Mosley fallen. He never was and never would have been.

If one bandies around the word 'definitive' save your money and stay with Mary Kenny's recently published, reprinted and much praised *GERMANY CALLING*.

F.B.

HAW-HAW: the tragedy of William and Margaret Joyce.
By Nigel Farndale
Macmillan
ISBN: 0 333 98992 9
£20.00.

COMRADE

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After the extensive and well received article on 'Mosley in Fiction' published in Comrade 56, John Tanner makes a welcome return with a further look at The Leader's portrayal away from the world of reality.

MOSLEY IN FICTION

John Tanner's Brief Update

No sooner had COMRADE printed my suggestion for an 'alternative history' imagining Mosley as Prime Minister in the 1930s than some papers reported the publication of *The Leader* by former *Times* journalist Guy Walters.

People would hardly expect those who not only knew what OM was really like, but also really liked him, to welcome this tedious tale. However, other reviewers have independently voiced similar judgements on its childish style. Page 1 opens interestingly enough with workers putting up flags for a peacetime visit to King Edward VIII and his new Premier by the German Chancellor, but the rest of this paperback plods downhill for 400 more pages of counter-factual nonsense, including lumpy caricatures of "tubby" Francis Hawkins, "urinating" Bill Allen (here called "Henry"), the "snarling" Leader, etc ... too wearisome for words.

It all ends in farce with Mosley being chased on horseback down Whitehall and then engaged in a melodramatic swordfight, after which he is imprisoned for life; a cross between Zorro and Saddam Hussein. The writer fails to elaborate on the "countless crimes" committed during Mosley's short time in power. Would they include his plans for full employment and slum clearance, or empire development to benefit all its races? These policies were spelled out in detail in his real-life autobiography, but Mr Walters found this "heavy going" and prefers to depict him as an evil tyrant who broke the

"promises" made to "lever" himself into power. The author solemnly thanks a score of assistants, from the good old Wiener Library to his own in-laws, for helping him breath what he calls "life" into his balderdash. It is instructive to compare his juvenile story with A.P. Nicholson's novel *Who Goes Home?* Written over 70 years ago. This was about a promising politician, also an excellent swordsman, whose amorous adventure brings about his fatal downfall. It has been said that Sir Richard, the central character, was "based on" Sir Oswald. If so, the author wisely put him in a different party and gave him a ginger beard (like Lenin). The contrast between pre-war literary craftsmanship and this latest drivel is immense.

AND STILL THEY COME

Another recent book that likewise reflects the writer's personal unfamiliarity with his subject is *Enough is Enough* by Mark Lawson, a Guardian writer. This is about a plot to get rid of Harold Wilson because of his apparently cosy relationship with the Soviets. In this fictional "reconstruction" of alleged fact, the press magnate Cecil King visits a "stuttering" OM at his Orsay home, misrepresented as usual as a place of self-exile, to learn from his "patriotism and



charisma" though not his "mistakes". Mr Lawson imagines his housekeeper to be an old French peasant crone who would serve "near-putrid cheese" - an insult, of course, to Mrs Lehan and to her employer, whose delicious cuisine and hospitality to every guest, from the Duke of Windsor to the humblest hack from any student newspaper, were always impeccable (as the *Evening Standard's* man-on-the-spot Sam White, among others confirmed). Another hilarious howler: Mosley's moustache "definitely remained" on his face, whereas by the supposed date of this encounter, it had been shaved off.

In later years, Mosley happened to meet, privately entertained, or maintained contact with many well-known people, political critics and friendly enquirers alike - Max Beaverbrook, Harold Macmillan, Richard Lamb, John Betjeman, Arthur Bryant, Richard Crossman, George Hutchinson, Graham Lord, Malcolm Muggeridge, the Bishop

of Southwark, Kenneth Williams, Colin Wilson, and even on one occasion the present Prince of Wales, to select a few at random from a lengthy list.

We know that King met Mosley more than once in London. They agreed that Britain was in decline and heading sooner or later for economic disaster, but the former wanted a "business government", while the latter preferred a "government of national union", whose composition and purposes were explained to interested people on visits to Britain and in his later widely distributed "broadsheets".

Both Walters and Lawson share an ignorance of the real Mosley. Ignorance is no excuse for vilification of people unable to answer back. Defamation of dead statesmen is more effective, however, if writers have the narrative skill of Philip Roth, for instance, in his "what if" version of the Lindbergh saga in the USA.

The famous novelist and candid critic Wyndham Lewis, who knew Mosley personally, came closer to the truth when in 1937 he said of the real man in true history that he possessed "great political insight and leadership quality". And what nonsense in Blair's Britain of all places to impute to Mosley any desire to establish a "police state" when he planned to encourage popular participation in national affairs, as the German novelist Hans Grimm put it, by "transforming the party system into a free parliament of the realm in which all political oratory would be backed by expert knowledge and expert ability".

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READ THE FICTION NOW HEAR THE TRUTH

After considerable success over the years in offering audio cassette tapes connected with Sir Oswald Mosley, Brockingday announce the re-release of three titles in the advanced format of C.D. As owners of the original recordings we have, with the aid of modern technology taken advantage of re-mastering the tapes. Due to the age of some of the recordings, this technique has its own limitations. Three C.Ds are now on offer.

MOSLEY SPEAKS: originally released to commemorate the 60th anniversary of B.U. First 21 months of British Union. Song of Union 1957. Manchester Free Trade Hall 1958. North Kensington General Election 1959. Acton Town Hall 1960, plus other recordings.

MOSLEYS ANSWERS: a feature of every Mosley meeting was the time allowed for questions from the audience. Birmingham 1958. Acton 1960.

MOSLEY'S MEN: a testament of faith by members of British Union and Union Movement. Together with a speech by Sir Oswald Mosley recorded in Bournemouth in 1958.

These C.Ds are offered at £5.00 each or £12.00 for all three ordered at the same time. All orders are post free. Please send a cheque to: Brockingday, 27 Old Gloucester Street, London. WC1N 3XX.

Major P.G. Taylor was the Industrial Adviser of the British Union of Fascists (BUF), a position that he held from 1934 (if not before) through to the bitter end sometime around June 1940. A member of the 'Research Directory' (the movement's Inner Council), Taylor was a man in whom Sir Oswald Mosley placed considerable confidence and, after a major cutback in March 1937, he was reported to have been ensconced in Mosley's office for half an hour while Neil Francis Hawkins, the Director-General, was kept waiting outside.

In the early days, Taylor had been involved in the efforts to bring other Fascist organisations within the BUF fold and, during the phoney war (September 1939 to April 1940), he participated in the discussions on how the BUF could work alongside others (including the British People's Party) to bring about a negotiated peace. Peace initiatives - from both sides - were common currency during this phase of the war, and beyond.

Critically, Taylor also played a key role in the stream of events that led to the arrests of Tyler Kent (a US citizen who had been employed as a code and cipher clerk at the US Embassy), Anna Wolkoff (a Russian-born dress designer and artist) and Captain Archibald Ramsay (the Conservative MP for Peebles and founder of the secret anti-Jewish Right Club). Ramsay was detained from 23 May 1940 to 26 September 1944; Kent (sentenced to 7 years) was inside from 20 May 1940 to 21 November 1944 when he was immediately deported; and Wolkoff (sentenced to 10 years) was arrested the same day as Kent and released on 16 June 1947. Wolkoff's British nationality that she had acquired in 1935 was also revoked.

The existence of this mythical spy ring was the justification used to persuade doubters in the Cabinet that there was a dangerous Fifth Column within the country and that, following the Nazi successes on the Continent of Europe, there was an urgent need to beef up Defence Regulation 18B.

The resulting legislation was directed squarely at the BUF with the consequences that over 1000 BUF members were interned and the movement itself was proscribed. Detailed research by historian Bryan Clough has revealed that "Major P.G. Taylor's" real name was in fact a spy called James McGuirk Hughes.

P.G. TAYLOR — AGENT PROVOCATEUR

Major P.G. Taylor was a man of many aliases and at the National Headquarters of the BUF it was common knowledge that he was a Government agent, apparently attached to some 'special department' of the Home Office.

It is highly likely that Taylor authored many of the copious reports on the BUF that have recently been transferred from the Home Office to the National Archives. These chronicle the ups and downs of the movement, detail the staff salaries, and reveal other titbits of information that could only have been sourced by a privileged insider.

Salary-wise, Dr. Robert Forgan (the Director) headed the list in 1934 on £10 per week, followed by Wilfred Risdon (the Director of Propaganda) on £7. William Joyce and Eric Piercy both picked up £5 while Taylor himself got £4.

Another titbit referred to a meeting in July 1934 between Mosley and Rotha Lintorn-Orman. Lintorn-Orman, the granddaughter of Field Marshal Simmons, had founded Britain's first Fascist party (the British Fascisti) in May 1923. Inspired by Mussolini, it was created to counter the Communist threat and, for a time, it could field an impressive team of ex-Generals and Admirals, including Major-General Thomas D. Pilcher, a former ADC to the King who was described as 'Local Officer, London'. One of Pilcher's sons, Gonne St Clair Pilcher (known as 'Toby' to his friends), was one of MI5's legal gurus before picking up a judge's badge and a knighthood in 1942. Less well known at the time were: Maxwell Knight (who finished up as its Deputy Chief of Staff and a member of its Grand Council before joining MI5 in 1931) and William Joyce (the best known broadcaster of German propaganda during WWII.)

Lintorn-Orman, who was reported to be ill caused by excessive drinking, turned down Mosley's final attempt at a merger even though several of her senior officers (including Neil Francis Hawkins and E.G. Mandeville Roe) and the bulk of her membership had already voted with their feet. A few months later, Lintorn-Orman was dead at the age of 40.

REVEALING HISTORICAL FACTS

Some further titbits referred to Taylor himself. For example, we learn from a Special Branch report dated 17 October 1934 (copy to MI5) that Mosley had set up a Court Martial consisting of Eric Piercy, Neil Francis Hawkins and Taylor to try Charles Bradford on the charges of uttering threats against Archibald Findlay (the Deputy Chief of Staff). Bradford was also charged with conspiring with five others in a plot to seize the Black House Headquarters building and then make demands

on Sir Oswald Mosley. The Court Martial found Bradford guilty whilst under the influence of drink and recommended that he should be suspended for three months.

Also, we learn that in March 1935 Taylor was a Vice-President of the Blackshirt Automobile Club and a member of the Research Directory. The other members of the Research Directory at that time were Mosley himself, General 'Boney' Fuller, Eric Piercy, William Joyce, Alexander Raven Thomson, John Beckett, William Leaper, George Sutton and Robert Gordon-Canning. Apart from Taylor himself, only Fuller, Joyce and Leaper of this group would escape internment after Hitler had replaced Stalin as Public Enemy No 1.

It is now known that 'Boney' Fuller and his wife were on the 'Suspect List' (of people who would be rounded up in the event of an invasion) but at the time it was evidently considered that their internment was not a good idea. Joyce narrowly avoided arrest by hot-footing it to Germany.

REVEALING TESTIMONY

P.G. Taylor's role in the BUF was first revealed to a wider public by Alex Miles, a 'sometime Director of Industrial Propaganda' of the BUF. Miles had decided to go public after resigning his job in 1936. Miles spoke at a public meeting organised by the Southend Anti-Fascist Council in

April 1937, and his speech was later published in a pamphlet *Mosley in Motley*.

According to Miles, Taylor was the head of a department within the BUF called 'Z' Intelligence, although Mosley had denied its existence when challenged during an action for slander that he had brought against John Marchbank, the general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen in February 1936. Miles' allegation regarding the existence of Taylor's intelligence role is corroborated by a Special Branch report dated 17 October 1934 and the existence of the 'Z' Intelligence Department is corroborated by a Home Office report dated March 1935. (No proof has been found that shows the leader knew anything about this secret group).

Miles also reported that Taylor ... lived at Sloane Street, Chelsea where he had three separate telephone lines ... each listed under a different name, none of which is Taylor ... [He] openly boasts that he was expelled from Soviet Russia for espionage and of his membership of the CPGB (Communist Party of Great Britain) for the same purpose. Taylor lived in a flat at 144 Sloane Street from 1935 to 1960. (MI5's Maxwell Knight had a flat at number 38 for a couple of years in the thirties.)

Unusually for a senior official of the BUF (but not for a Government agent), Taylor was extremely camera shy and very few photographs of him have been found in his guise as a member of the BUF. However, the late John Warburton remembered him from the thirties. According to John, 'he was 40-ish, of average height and



KINGSTON B.U.F. BRANCH DINNER EVERYONE SMILES AND LOOKS TOWARDS THE CAMERA, EXCEPT FOR ONE TOP TABLE GUEST



CAUGHT OFF GUARD. THE SHY SPY MCGUIRK HUGHES ATTEMPTING TO HIDE HIS FEATURES FROM THE ALL-SEEING CAMERA



MCGUIRK HUGHES A.K.A. P.G. TAYLOR, CAPTAIN HOWARD, CAPTAIN CUNNINGHAM

sported a small moustache. He was every inch a cultured Englishman, a typical ex-Army major'.

A chapter on a book that he was writing on the BUF has also come to light and, curiously, he wrote it in the third person and refers to himself accordingly:

Among other arrivals was P.G. Taylor, no one ever knew what P.G. stood for, if anything - unless it was Please God - he wouldn't be found out. He became a sort of super sleuth - the leader of Dept Z as the Secret Service was called, later Industrial Adviser which lasted until 1940.

Mrs B who is now in her eighties and had worked at National Headquarters during the thirties, also remembers him. 'He was then in his mid-thirties ... and always smartly dressed'. She has also confirmed that Taylor's affiliation to the Home Office was general knowledge and that, when he was in the office, he gave a ready grin whenever he

was asked 'if he had caught anyone today'.

Mrs B also recalls seeing Taylor on one occasion when he was leaving a local Catholic church with a woman and a teenage girl whom she assumed to be his wife and daughter. On that occasion, Taylor cut her dead. 'It was as though he didn't want to mix family with business'.

REVEALING THE MAN

James McGuirk Hughes - the man who posed as P.G. Taylor - was born in Toxteth Park, Liverpool on 18 June 1897. His father, Arthur Hughes, was a tram owner and his mother was the former Katherine McGuirk. Hughes married Valerie Julia Taylor Tahan at a Catholic church in Fulham on 19 June 1920. He gave his occupation as 'Political Organiser'. Hughes' father was reported dead but it now seems more likely that his parents' marriage had broken down. Valerie's father, Zachary, was described as an Oriental Merchant. When their daughter Patricia Valerie Catherine arrived on 29 March 1923, Hughes had become James Patrick McGuirk-Hughes but Valerie had dropped 'Taylor' perhaps coincident with the creation of Hughes' best known alias.

Over the years, Hughes continually rang the changes on his real name: sometimes, it was hyphenated; at other times, it was double-barrelled but unhyphenated but, in 1940 when Captain Ramsay listed him as a member of the Right Club, he was entered as Captain J. Hughes.

Hughes' military background is not fully supported by the Army Lists. He appears on the MI5 Staff List as a Lance Corporal in the Military Foot Police from 13th February 1916 to 6th August 1919 but the absence of medals on his Medal Card suggests that he did not see any active service. However, this would not necessarily have been recorded if he had been engaged on intelligence work. There is no record of Hughes ever having made either Captain or Major but honorary ranks have often been sprinkled on Government agents. In 1924, Hughes and some members of the British Fascisti were implicated in a break-in at the London HQ of the Red International of Labour Unions where, he would claim, 'important information' was collected. Between the wars, Hughes served as secretary of the Liverpool branch of the British Empire Union where his main job was to infiltrate and sabotage trade unions and left-wing groups. In this, he collaborated

with Special Branch.

In 1934, Hughes was immortalised by Maxwell Knight in his first novel *Crime Cargo*. The novel is memorable only because of the teasing references that Knight made to his friends. Hughes appeared as 'Baldy McGurk' who was described as a 'pig-eyed Irishman'. Hughes was certainly bald and the reference to a pig was clearly inspired by

Taylor's unfortunate choice of initials.

In 1937, Taylor persuaded four BUF members to burgle the home of Major Vernon, a technical officer at the Royal Aircraft Establishment at Farnborough and, on this occasion, he claimed to have been working for MI5. Unfortunately for the burglars, the police caught them making their getaway in a car sporting a BUF flag. At their trial, the four burglars were found guilty of larceny and bound over for 12 months. However, some of the papers that they had stolen from Vernon were deemed sensitive and Vernon was prosecuted under the Official Secrets Act. He was found guilty, fined £30, and lost his job.

One of the burglars, John Preen, who was later interned under Defence Regulation 18B then used the work he had done for Taylor in a plea to secure his release.

Unfortunately for Preen, the brownie points that he may have earned from his efforts on behalf of national security were not recognised by the Advisory Committee.

Thanks to Nigel West, we have confirmation that Major Vernon was, indeed, a spy employed by the GRU (Soviet Military Intelligence) in a cell run by Ernest D. Weiss, a concert pianist. This revelation is in West's book *Venona* (1999) and thanks to Frank Johnson (*The Daily Telegraph*), we also know that Vernon resurfaced after the war as the Labour MP for the Dulwich division of Camberwell (1945-1951).

For the record, Wilfrid Foulston Vernon (his first name has often been misspelled) was born in 1882 and died in 1975. He was an engineer with a naval background who was commissioned as a major in the Royal Air Force. According to *Who's Who*, he quit the Royal Aircraft Establishment in 1937 but, during the war, he worked with Tom Wintringham, training the Home Guard.

Wintringham (1898-1949) was a prominent Communist of the pre-war era whose claims to fame include having been one of the

twelve Communists who were tried for sedition in 1925 (he was assistant editor of *Workers' Weekly*) and in having commanded the International Brigade's British contingent in the Spanish Civil War.

Clearly, MI5 had got the correct measure of Vernon in 1937, so his name should now be added to the long list of Soviet spies who, for some reason, were allowed to carry on with business as usual, despite their being security risks.

REVEALING A SPY AT WORK

On 9 April 1940, P.G. Taylor - or rather his alter ego James Hughes - played the most important role of his career when, after being introduced to Anna Wolkoff, he asked her if she could send a communication to William Joyce who was then in Germany broadcasting Nazi propaganda and making a name for himself as 'Lord Haw-Haw'. Wolkoff's family had been dispossessed by the Russian revolution and she was vehemently anti-Jewish. When Hughes told her that the letter contained some 'good anti-Jewish material' that Joyce could use in his broadcasts, Wolkoff said that she would see what she could do.

It was her lucky day or so she thought because, later that evening, Hélène de Munck went into the Russian Tea Rooms that were run by Anna's parents and she casually mentioned to Admiral Wolkoff, Anna's father, that she had a friend at the Rumanian Legation who was leaving for the Continent the next day. The Rumanian angle was a good card to play because de Munck had some Rumanian blood in her.

The old Admiral trotted over to share the news with Anna who swallowed the bait by rushing across to de Munck and demanding if it were true. On receiving de Munck's confirmation, she demanded 'Why didn't you tell me this before?' She then handed the letter over to de Munck.

Of course, de Munck was an MI5 undercover agent and, at her trial, Wolkoff's indiscretion would be sufficient for her to be categorised as 'an enemy agent' under the Official Secrets Acts. This then ensured that Tyler Kent could similarly be brought within the ambit of the Official Secrets Acts. More immediately, it also resulted in the internment of Captain Ramsay and for the allegation to be made that Mosley and Ramsay were 'in relations', presumably on the strength of a few meetings that they had both attended at which Taylor had also

been present.

Curiously, even though MI5 had carried out their sting on 9 April 1940, they waited until 20 May before arresting Wolkoff and Kent. According to Robert Bruce Lockhart, who was then Lord Beaverbrook's assistant and therefore in the know, the truth of the matter was that Winston Churchill, who had become Prime Minister on 10 May 1940, had promised the Labour Party that 'the Government will deal ruthlessly with the Fifth Column' if they supported his bid to become Prime Minister. Naturally, Churchill did the honourable thing and fulfilled his election pledge. The move went down well with the media and with the CPGB both of who equated the mythical Fifth Column with the BUF.

One man, Aubrey Lees (not to be confused with Arnold Leese, the leading light of the Imperial Fascist League) had particular cause for grievance because he was arrested and interned on 20 June 1940, even though he had never been a member of the BUF. Lees, who was vehemently anti-Jewish, had attended meetings of The Link and the Nordic League, both of which closed down on the outbreak of war. Later, when Lees was interviewed by the 18B Advisory Committee, he told them that he had come across a man whom he considered to have been an *agent provocateur*.

The man whom Lees fingered was E.G. Mandeville Roe, formerly a senior member of the British Fascists who had joined the BUF at the same time as Neil Francis Hawkins. It is extraordinary that the Committee should have prompted Lees in this manner but Lees then went on to tell the Committee that he knew 'this fellow Hughes' and that he also knew him to be an agent of the Home Office. He said that they had become 'quite friendly' and that, on one occasion, he had asked him: 'By the way, aren't you a Home Office agent, or expert, or something?' Hughes replied, 'I was'.

Another person with a real grievance was Anna Wolkoff. She had wanted to call Hughes as a witness at her trial but, according to the Earl Jowitt, who published a summary of the trial in 1954, the man who had handed her the letter 'was never identified ... [and] ... could not be called as a witness'.

In 1940, Jowitt had been the Solicitor-General and he had prosecuted both Kent and Wolkoff and, as no transcript has ever been published on Wolkoff's trial, his was the definitive explanation, however implausible

in view of Wolkoff having been kept under close surveillance by MI5.

However, a few years ago following a relaxation of policy, I was granted privileged access to the Home Office files on Anna Wolkoff. These had been marked 'closed for 75 years', so they were not due to be opened until 2015. (This file among others has since been released into the National Archives). Although the files had been heavily 'weeded', a report on the revocation of Wolkoff's British nationality in August 1943 had survived and this shows that she had wanted to call a number of witnesses to the hearing, including 'one Hughes'. The Committee reported that: *We did not consider the evidence of these persons ... would be of sufficient importance to justify the postponement of the hearing before us. The matters of the attendance of Hughes and the nature of the evidence which he might have given were fully considered at the trial at the Central Criminal Court.*

So, at last, here was corroboration that the Earl Jowitt had fudged the issue. Elsewhere in the files, Anna Wolkoff also went on record as saying that the man who handed her the letter had three aliases, one of which may have been 'Cunningham' (It was and he was another Captain, a further alias was Captain Howard.) Moreover, Anna believed that he was working for MI2, whereas the woman who had offered to put the letter in a diplomatic bag (Hélène de Munck) was working for MI5.

Hughes is believed to have gone to some South American country on an intelligence assignment after his stint with the BUF came to a close but, according to his granddaughter, he was whisked away to Scotland during WWII because 'his life was in danger'. But there's an alternative possibility: maybe it was so that he could not have been called as a witness at her trial.

In summary, therefore, Anna Wolkoff's crime was to take a letter from one *agent provocateur* (Hughes) and hand it to a second *agent provocateur* (de Munck).

So far as is known, Churchill never commented on MI5's most infamous sting operation but, if he had, he might well have declared that 'Never in the field of human endeavour have so many been incarcerated for so long on such flimsy trumped-up evidence'.

Of course, there is a lot more to it than that, as you can discover from my book *State Secrets: The*

Kent-Wolkoff Affair but, at least, you are now familiar with some of the activities of Britain's most extraordinary *agent provocateur*. However, the uses to which he put his other known aliases (Captain Howard and Captain Cunningham) still remain mysteries.

For the record, James McGuirk Hughes who died in 1983, also wrote two novels both published under nom de plumes: *Spying in Russia* by John Vidor (1929) and *Revolt* by A.P. Roley (1933).

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BLIND MEN'S BLUFF?

A Chinese defence lawyer, who has handled cases of torture and persecution, claims that the Chinese Communist Party has been responsible for the deaths of 80 million people, but Western governments desperate to "trade with the world's fastest growing economy" have "turned a blind eye" (Observer, 29 January 2006).

The Council of Europe in Paris complains that there has been no international enquiry into crimes committed by the Soviet and other communist regimes (Times 26 January 2006). It documented some 20 million deaths from murder, deportations and starvation to the USSR, plus 2 million each in North Korea and Cambodia, 1.7million in Africa, 1 million in Vietnam, 1 million in eastern Europe, 150,000 in Latin America, etc.

The precise circumstances and statistical details can be debated, of course, as with almost every other 20th century horror. However, relatively little TV time ever seems to go on these communist atrocities. Their innocent victims have yet to get their "Remembrance Day" or "Holocaust Museums". Why this discrimination? Not very "tolerant" or "compassionate" is it?

C.W.

Behind the high profile named members of the British Union, marched countless thousands of men and women dedicated to the cause who made up the vital link between policy and the general public. "Let he leads who can" was the slogan. Street corner meetings, leaflet bashing, selling the newspaper, office work, fund raising socials even down to making the humble but necessary cuppa. A myriad group of convinced volunteers who were determined to help put back the GREAT into BRITAIN.

These people have for the most part slipped into history, remaining anonymous, but with the stupendous amount of research now being undertaken into so many aspects of B.U. history (stimulated in large part by twenty years of Comrade) it is not surprising that 'names' do surface. Some are interesting enough to instigate further research in order to profile their contribution to the cause. One such person was a young man called William Samuel Bogle who was first noted by historian/researcher John Anderson when writing his article on overseas branches of the British Union. Intriguingly, Bogle operated the Black House Radio Station G.2.Q.D. Certainly not a jobsworth position, as government examination and a knowledge of morse were mandatory to hold such a position. Here certainly was a foot soldier worthy of a second glance.

A FACE IN THE CROWD

By John Anderson

Born in 1901 William Samuel Bogle was the son of Robert Bogle, a civil servant. During the first World War he served in the Royal Navy, where he undoubtedly picked up his initial radio skills. Photographic evidence of his medal ribbons indicate he was involved in R.N. mine clearance that went on until 1920.

Following that period, he lived in Cloughton, Birkenhead where he met his future wife, Olive Richardson. They were married on 8th August 1927, at the local Parish Church, and made their home at 10, Christchurch Road, Cloughton. In May the following year their daughter Margaret was born.

It was the custom within the Movement, when referring to N.H.Q. officials to only use their surname, so in true B.U. tradition 'Bogle' will be used from this point.

Early Days - The 'Black House'

An early recruit to British Union, no date has yet been discovered for his recruitment. He is first recorded during December 1933 as officer in charge of the Radio Department at National Headquarters, 33 King's Road, Chelsea. He was also an early member of the National Defence Force, organised by Eric Hamilton Piercy the Movement's 3rd most senior officer. Piercy had been a Special Inspector with the Metropolitan Police, but had been forced to resign due to his association with the Blackshirts. In March 1934, Bogle appeared as a member of the Special Detachment that led the 1st London Propaganda March. This detachment formed the cadre of the movement's elite I Squad, which Bogle typically joined, where many of its members would later hold high ranking posts throughout the life of the organisation. While in the I Squad Bogle took part in all the duties of the unit - from transport driver, steward, and orderly at

Headquarters. He also attended all the major National meetings - Albert Hall, Olympia, and Hyde Park for example.

A degree of the regard held for Bogle, at this stage, is demonstrated when, in April 1935, Bogle with nine fellow I Squad members was selected to form a special guard of honour at NHQ. This was the occasion of the funeral of NHQ employee David Prichard who had died in a motor cycle accident, near Staines.

Around this time he was under the command of Lionel Aitken, Officer in Charge of Premises, Recruiting and Enquires. This section included F Knowles and 'Yorky' Rawlinson both fellow I Squad members - with Bogle holding the rank of Unit Leader. However, it was not long before he was promoted to the rank of Sub-Company Officer and appointed as Orderly Officer of the Day within a unit which was called the 'White Guard'. This unit contained the men who ensured the smooth running of the premises, supplied the guards to the entrances and escorted visitors around the building. Bogle held this post until the 'Black House' was sold and a new HQ opened in the Sanctuary Buildings, Westminster.

Westminster Abbey District

The move to the Sanctuary Buildings provided an opportunity to divide the Westminster branch in two - becoming known as the St George's and Abbey districts. The Abbey district captured those members already living in the area, and also provided an



FIRST PROPAGANDA MARCH PROGRESSING ALONG LONDON'S EMBANKMENT. BOGLE CAN BE SEEN ON THE OUTSIDE FLANK



BOGLE ON THE LEFT. FRANCIS HAWKINS CAN ALSO BE SEEN IN THE PICTURE

administrative home for the NHQ staff which had been formally been attached to the 'Black House' branch.

William Clarkson was appointed as Abbey's first District Officer and he quickly convened a general meeting for Wednesday



BOGLE IN THE MIDDLE OF A PARADE

14th August, in the office of the London Command; now located on the second floor of the Sanctuary Building. Here the other officers of the district were announced: District Treasurer, Ackerley; Assistant District Officer (Canvass), Bogle; Assistant District Officer (Sales), Wilder; Assistant District Officer (Propaganda), McNab and Women's District Officer, Miss Aitken. It was also decided that the focus of the district's attention should be in the Tachbrook Street area with Trafalgar Square as the location of their first public meeting. Finally, the district would be temporarily housed at NHQ; until suitable accommodation had been secured.

The location of NHQ and the attachment of many of its permanent staff provided an excellent pool of speakers for Clarkson and McNab to draw on. Mrs Anne Brock-Griggs, Alexander Raven Thompson and A K Chesterton, all made regular appearances, addressing crowds of up to 600, which soon became

the norm.

Bogle's main role, as A.D.O. (Canvass) was to be prospective election agent for the district. As such, he had to develop a team of Division 1 members operating in each of Abbey's wards. He was also responsible for the canvass and in particular for regular weekly calls by the Division 1 teams to collect subscriptions from the Division 3 members and increase sales of the Movement's publications to them. This he did in conjunction with the A.D.O. (Sales). In fact Bogle became the electoral spearhead for the district which finally resulted in the selection of Vice-Admiral R. St. P. Parry, D.S.O., M.V.O. as its Prospective Parliamentary Candidate for the next General Election.

By Christmas 1935 he had taken over as A.D.O. (Sales) from T Wilder who in turn had moved over to the propaganda section as A.D.O. (Propaganda). At this time Bogle was luckily working closely with several of his former I Squad members including Unit Leaders; Bussey, Graham,

Rawlinson, Lord and Waters.

Bogle held this post until the summer of 1936 when he was appointed to a new and even more challenging position - District Officer for Paddington South.

Paddington South District

Originally known as the Bayswater Branch, the Paddington District was an early success story in the history of the BUF development. Organised by Deputy Branch Officer Sullivan, by March 1933, the Paddington group had quickly attained branch status. From this key milestone the branch progressed steadily and by January 1934 had become the home of the West London Regional Council; later renamed the West London Command operating from 27, Pembridge Villas, Paddington, W11. At this stage the branch was under the command of Branch Officer, Mahon, while his wife ran the Women's Section. Other key members included Section Leader, Doyle - the Senior Defence Force Officer; Sub Branch Officer, Godward and Propaganda Officer, Waddingham.

Interestingly, a significant portion of the Paddington branch membership were drawn from the Hamilton Motor Factory, located at 466-490, Edgware Road. This company had supplied the famous 'bottle proof' vans to NHQ, which were mainly used for transporting speakers and members of London Defence Force across London and the suburbs. These vehicles had originally been intended for the Russian Postal Service, but after the contract was cancelled the BUF stepped-in and secured a quick purchase.

The Paddington branch continued to make steady progress throughout 1934 and into 1935; challenging continually for the coveted 'Blackshirt' Sales Cup. During this time several members



BOGLE SELLING THE BLACKSHIRT NEWSPAPER

including Miss M Forester, Mr G. Waddingham and Mr C. Barnick were selling more than 150 copies per week. For their effort each received a copy of 'Greater Britain', autographed by the Leader. However, at the end of the period, it was Hammersmith and then North London that would eventually take the cup.

During the spring of 1935, NHQ officer, Charles F Wegg-Prosser was appointed as District Officer to the Paddington Branch. His appointment occurred following a series of communist attacks on the previous District Officer and also the branch premises. At one occasion there was even an attempt to burn the offices down. Wegg-Prosser was aided by another well-known NHQ officer called George Dunlop, both men would later play a key role in the rise of the East London Blackshirts. Under Wegg-Prosser the branch flourished and by June 1935 sufficient progress had been made to split the branch in two forming Paddington North under District Officer Bray and Paddington South under District Officer Greaves.

Following a concentrated push by local communists to drive out the Paddington South members, the post of District Officer once again became vacant. NHQ moved immediately and



THE FUNERAL OF DAVID PRITCHARD. BOGLE CAN BE SEEN THIRD FROM THE RIGHT IN THE SPECIAL GUARD OF HONOUR

appointed Bogle. He took up his appointment in June at district HQ now located at 85 Westbourne Park Road, Paddington. At his first meeting with the branch officers he declared 'within 6 months this branch will hold the Leaders Sales Cup': an awesome challenge! Dividing the district into separate wards he allocated the members into 'Action' teams - Team Leaders included Women's District Officer Swain, Miss Taylor, Miss Fortune and Miss Stratton, and from the men's section Blackshirts Grove, Calder, Pile and Gardiner. In December, as predicted, it was announced they had won the cup. This coincided with news that Bogle would be leaving the district to take over the more prestigious post as District Inspector.

But his duties were not quite finished, in January, representing the district membership he attended the marriage of Blackshirts C W Calder and Miss D E Cox.



THE BLACK HOUSE RADIO
CALL SIGN G2QD

District Inspector - London Command

The post of District Inspector was created following the reorganisation of the area administration system which, although necessary in the early days, had produced a decentralised structure with too much independence from NHQ. In London, the implication of this change was to move from five councils, based on the London regions i.e. North London Regional Council etc. to a more structured district inspectorate of twelve areas, each containing between 5 and 10 districts. Each District Inspector reported directly to the Senior London Administrator, who by 1937 was Captain U A Hick of the London Command.

Where possible, each District Inspector would be appointed from within his own inspection area. If this was not possible then a NHQ official would be selected, but preferably with the aid of a locally recruited subordinate, officially known as the Assistant District Inspector. In addition, the District Inspector would have the support of the Women's Canvass Officer, the Area Propaganda Officer and the

Area Cadet Leader.

The role of the District Inspector was mainly that of liaison. His job was to be a link between the local membership and NHQ. For this he needed to know, not only the officers of each district but most of the 1st and 2nd Division membership and preferably many of the 3rd Division non-active members. Therefore, when appointing a NHQ District Inspector he was usually one with either a high profile or one which had come into contact with numerous members of the organisation. Bogle certainly met the latter.

Bogle was appointed District Inspector of the 2nd London Area in February 1937. This area covered the districts of Finsbury, Islington North - South and East, St Marylebone and finally St Pancras. Here his first objective was to organise the area's Eve of Coronation Carnival, to be held at Gatti's Restaurant, King Williams Street, Strand, on Tuesday 11th May. To assist him, he called on W. A. Cooper, another former I Squad member and by then District Leader for St Marylebone, and from all reports they did an excellent job, with the carnival drawing the support over 300 members.

It is a measure of Bogle's worth that he survived the massive 1937 cutback of salaried staff when nearly 80% had to go because of financial difficulties.

By the autumn District Inspector Bogle had transferred to the 7th London Area. His new operational area covered the districts of Chelsea, Hammersmith North, Hammersmith South, Fulham East and Fulham West; and also the districts of Kensington South, Kensington North and finally Putney. These districts had originally formed the Regional Councils of West and South West London. To support Bogle his team of senior officers of the area included Miss Ann Good, Women's Canvass Officer; Podger, Assistant District Inspector; Cottrell, Area Propaganda Officer and Flockhart, Cadet Leader. Bogle was also fortunate to have at least two qualified Election Agents - Miss Anne Good and H Hewitt (District Leader of Hammersmith South).

The first Wednesday evening of each month was set for the leaders of the districts to meet where updates on the latest BU policy were communicated. It also provided the forum to raise any local issues which NHQ needed to be made aware. Senior officials of the movement were always keen to hear how the 7th was progressing. Captain



WILLIAM SAMUEL BOGLE

Hick, Senior London Administrator had been a founding member of the Fulham Branch and there an early Branch Officer; C Pertwee, a National Organising Officer, had founded the Hammersmith Branch in association with the Vincent brothers - George and Stanley. George G Vincent went on to help form the Northern Administration while Stanley organised the Kent region from his base at Ashford. Another NHQ official with a long association with this area was Capt Ernie Mathews, he was in charge of all maintenance work at National Headquarters.

Final Years

By March 1938, Bogle had passed on his duties as District Inspector to Podger to concentrate his attention on his NHQ work. By this stage the movement was having a dramatic upsurge in membership; mainly due to the ever worsening International situation. Now working exclusively in the Enquiry Office, Bogle, together with C Payne, G Armsden and V Calcroft he dealt with the constant flow of personal and telephone calls declaring an interest in joining the

organisation or seeking further information. The documented influx of new members during this pre war period is testament indeed to both his dedication and hard work for the movement.

In 1940, Bogle, together with most of the NHQ staff and almost 1000 district members and supporters, was arrested and interned under the controversial 18B legislation. Bogle did not join Union Movement. A long suffering consumptive, he decided to settle, after his release, in the clean air of the Lincolnshire Wolds, taking a less demanding position as an engineers clerk. Following the publication of Mosley's seminal work THE ALTERNATIVE, Bogle, now in failing health wrote to Mosley congratulating him on the book. This confirms the oft said 'ONCE A MOSLEY MAN, ALWAYS A MOSLEY MAN'. He passed away aged just 49 on the 13th September 1950 of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

IT HAS BEEN AN HONOUR TO PAY TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM SAMUEL BOGLE, A LIFETIME FIGHTER FOR TRUTH AND JUSTICE.

HE IS NOT FORGOTTEN.

J.A.

PAST



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COMRADE



15th January 1990

Dear Friend of O.M.,

Our New Year Greeting comes to you a little later than is customary this year but is none the less sincere for its delay.

You may also have noticed the absence of our yearly report normally sent out at this time. The spirit is always willing but the body sometimes succumbs to illness. The Editor of COMRADE, John Christian, spent Christmas and the New Year in hospital following an operation for appendicitis. Others whose help is vital to the production of COMRADE have also been on the sick list but all are now making progress on the road to recovery.

Before long we hope that our modest journal will again be arriving to reunite and inspire Friends with the message of the great man who has influenced all our lives so much.

1989 has been a year of continued progress for FOM with many new Friends made and old Comrades found and successful meetings have again been held in both London and Manchester. The interest from academic and literary circles continues to grow and much time has been spent in providing assistance for important projects with results that will be seen in the coming year.

1990 promises to be an historic year for Europe. However we may view the real motives of bankrupt Marxist regimes in initiating 'glasnost' and 'perestroika', the people of Eastern Europe have arisen to take control of events and even now their heroic actions are destroying Communism on the streets of Europe.

Almost without exception they seek to realise their aspirations through an extended Brotherhood of Europe. What a privilege it is for us to see one of the major themes advocated by Oswald Mosley, the rejection of Communism and the creation of a new Europe, enacted so swiftly and in our own lifetimes.

Problems there will still be, and other troubles that threaten the very identity of our British people that will require heroism in our own islands equal to that shown by the people of Bucharest, Warsaw, Prague, Berlin and elsewhere.

Throughout 1990 COMRADE will continue to make its viewpoint known on these and other matters.

Finally, I thank you for your enthusiasm, support and interest which has given so much encouragement for the future to all involved in the production of COMRADE.

Yours in Friendship,

Gordon Beckwell

Gordon Beckwell.

COMRADE

Newsletter of Friends of O.M.

'The Spirit Lives...The Rest Will Follow'



September 1996.

Dear Friend of O.M.,

It is hard to believe that if Sir Oswald Mosley was alive today, he would be almost 100 years old.

Right up until the end, his thinking was always fresh and his speeches were always delivered with the vigour of youth. And that is how we always remember him.

On the centenary day itself, Saturday November 16th., the Friends of O.M. will be holding a private dinner to mark the occasion. The number of places available are limited and more than half have already been applied for. We are therefore writing to you earlier than usual to advise you to book now if you would like to attend. The remaining places will be allocated only on a 'first come, first served' basis and we regret that inevitably some will be disappointed. For this we apologise in advance.

Please complete the form below and return it with your cheque without delay. Those who applied for tickets during, or since, the May Buffet must confirm their reservation now by sending their cheque by return.

Yours in Union,

Gordon Beckwell

Gordon Beckwell

*Right: Friends of Oswald Mosley 1937:
Blackshirts and Greyshirts accompany
the Leader to the sea for a swim at
the British Union Summer Camp at Selsey,
3 p.m. Sunday August 1st. 1937.
[Photo taken by Mrs. Flo Elliott].*



THE FOM CENTENARY DINNER

Saturday November 16th 1996 at 6.00 p.m.

Reservations can only be accepted if accompanied by a cheque or postal order for £15 made payable to 'F.O.M.' Send to: Fred Bailey, 101 Orwell Court, Pownall Road, London E8 4PP. Tickets mailed the week preceeding the Dinner.

Name:

'No matter who sits in Westminster, they have to jump to the financiers tune'

THE MYTH OF BRITISH SOVEREIGNTY

By MICHAEL QUILL

ONCE AGAIN the Old Party Politicians indulge in a debate that is completely futile. Whether a Single Currency could lead to the loss of National Sovereignty which begs the question of what sovereignty have we now over our economic affairs?

If we have, why are there millions of unemployed? Why have we homelessness and a million slum houses? Why are nurses being forced into threatening strike action to get a living wage?

Labour Prime Minister Clement Attlee once told us that "it was external factors over which we had no control" that were responsible for the economic problems of the day. Oswald Mosley replied that it was the speculators of international finance that controlled the British economy.

Would any Prime Minister suggest that we should have a few million unemployed or a 'card-board city' set up on the Embankment very night?

Of course not. These things just happen. Why do they happen?

Because Britain is part of the international trading system and international finance rules.

No matter who sits in Westminster they have to jump to the financiers tune. We are urged to great effort to 'stay competitive' and 'not to price ourselves out of a

job' as we compete with sweated and slave labour throughout the world. Gone are the days when Trade Unions campaigned for 'not an hour on the day, not a penny of the rate'. Wages are reduced by inflation and devaluation year after year and the struggle to regain our standard of living creates a treadmill that one never reaches the top. With the advance of technology hours of work should be coming down. But we work longer overtime than ever. That is if you are one of the lucky ones helping to increase productivity! The unlucky ones meet 'the recession' and join the Dole queue.

Unemployment, even the official 'doctored' figures, are in millions and have been so for most of this century. They only reduced during the Second World War when international financiers were

worried more about their necks than there money. The latest ploy is the creation of 'part-time' jobs at pitiful wages to help us 'become competitive'.

Who is responsible for this deplorable state of affairs, for many becoming permanent and for whom there is no way out?

The men of the old gang political parties in the 'sovereign' House of Commons who in their stupidity cling to the international system of 'free trade' when science has made it possible to produce almost anything anywhere in the world. The need for international trade has gone.

Does it matter whether there is a National Currency or a Joint European Currency? What matters is that the people have control of their money and not international specu-

COMRADE
Supplement
MAY 1995

EMERGING TRUTH

'Global free trade massively enriches the countries with cheap labour, and creates divisions in society far greater than Marx envisaged.'

Sir James Goldsmith MEP
'No economy is rich enough to pay for unemployment for its own citizens as well as the wages of people who are making the stuff we want to buy.'

Former trade minister
Alan Clark
(Sunday Times 30.10.1994)

lators. When large scale international trading ceases so will the large scale dealing in money stop. The need to devalue or adjust interest rates after the latest gamble on the international money markets will end. What an absurdity to pay higher interest rates to the very people that plotted against our currency, making certain they will try again, and again.

British Money should only serve the British People and European Money only the people of Europe. Whether we have the convenience of a joint currency or a National currency, the important thing is that it should be managed by the people.

There should be no place in the modern world for the gamblers and speculators of international finance.

Mosley warned — again and again

By ROBERT ROW

"JITTERY WORKERS turn against free trade" ran the heading in the Sunday Times a short time ago. These were American workers and it was bound to happen. It is also bound to happen here as British workers face exactly the same dangers from Eastern slave competition.

American workers "have had enough of free trade" said the Sunday Times. "They worry about their jobs, and fear competition from goods made in Chinese prison camps and Mexican sweatshops". The same menace overhangs British industry, for the global free trade fanatics in their seats of power are building a single world-

wide market open to all countries no matter how low their wages.

It is therefore a global market without protective barriers, and the jobs go where labour is cheap, especially these days when modern machines can be worked by cheap labour after a week's training. But it is really a double attack on British jobs. First,

they are directly threatened as low-cost Eastern competition invades British markets. Secondly, more and more big names in British industry are investing in the East, operating out there, employing local labour. A rising exodus of jobs from Britain is the result. For British workers

Turn to Page 4

THE BRITISH PARLIAMENT: "Its central problem is not just the stench of low-intensity corruption, but rather the fact that by most criteria it is remarkably badly run. MPs receive little training for a job that often involves staying up all night to cast votes whose outcome has already been fixed by the Whips. Its ability to scrutinise legislation is at best poor (which other legislature would have let the poll tax go through?) and the media are much better at uncovering government wrong doing. Far from being a model of sober deliberation, its public image is closer to that of a *Punch* and *Judy* show".

GEOFF MULGAN: "ONLY REFORM CAN SAVE BRITAIN NOW": *Evening Standard*, 31 October 1994

DEMOCRACY

Action Within Parliamentary Government

By Sir Oswald Mosley

DEMOCRACY either means that the will of the people shall be implemented, or it means nothing. Yet to suggest a system which can, in fact, do what the people want done is often denounced as a denial of democracy, since effective action is regarded as a danger to liberty. In the name of freedom people are condemned to live in slums for fear that a government powerful enough to rebuild the slums might turn life into some kind of prison. Consequently we live in a State of universal negation within a system of individual inhibition.

The individual has liberty to drink or drug himself into oblivion of his inhibitions, but not the liberty to live in a good home easily obtained at a fair rent, or to enjoy a secure livelihood in work which interests him because his ideas are used, while in the evening his enthusiasm is encouraged in an active community life. These things are possible in the age of modern science, but they require organisation on a great scale which means action by government. The failure of government to act results in disillusionment and eventually in the disintegration of society.

Is it possible to reconcile action with liberty? Can we give government power to act and yet make quite certain it will not abuse that power, and will preserve the absolute assurance of individual liberty? I believe we can. Government freely and regularly elected by universal franchise would ask the parliamentary majority to grant it freedom to act in all the main problems facing the nation. It would then be able to do what the people want done, subject to the right of Parliament at any time to dismiss it by vote of censure. Give a man, or in this case a government, a job to do, and sack him if he fails, is a principle most people would support. Commonsense principles of everyday life, which everyone can understand, are required to cut through the Gordian knot of present confusion and frustration in government.

Members of Parliament should not only have power to dismiss government by a majority vote of censure, but also to question Ministers far more fre-

quently than time now permits. Members of all parties should be attached to each department to make suggestions to Ministers and interrogate them publicly if they proved recalcitrant. Members of Parliament should also be more closely informed of what is happening in the country by spending more time among their constituents. Time spent in the lobbies or in futile debates would be used instead to share in the daily life and to study the requirements of their constituents. They would then be competent to question Ministers, since they would be well informed by their contacts both with the departments and with the people.

"We never learn all
the facts until we
become Ministers;
that is why all party
programmes are more or
less bogus"

What would be gained and what might be lost by such a reform of government? The gain would be complete freedom to act. For instance, just conceive solving the housing problem by the present rigmarole of interacting procedure between government, Parliament and local authority. The scandal of the slums in Birmingham, Liverpool, Manchester, Glasgow and London itself was one of the main factors which took me into the Labour Party in 1924, after betrayal of the government's pledge in 1918 to rehouse the people with particular reference to the returned ex-servicemen. Yet it was reported in "The Times" of October 22 1969 that 4,500,000 houses still require demolition.

For my part I have proposed ever since return from the war of 1918 that we should solve the housing problem as an "operation of war". Government

should mobilise individual firms by mass production methods to build houses as they built ships, planes, shells and mulberry harbours in wartime. When the housing shortage is at length overcome and the slums are rebuilt, industry could revert to private enterprise just as normality returns at the successful conclusion of a war. It would be a national effort to solve a problem which menaces the life, health and happiness of our people. Why should government only have the power to act in time of war; always to destroy, never to build?

The gain in terms of what could be done for our people by this long overdue action of government would be immense. What would be the loss? We should lose whatever advantage is derived from detailed parliamentary debate, an overrated benefit. As an ex-Minister responsible for conducting difficult and complex Bills through Parliament I will not deny there is some benefit. The old adage that several heads are better than one always applies in regarding these measures from all angles in Parliament, because every kind of human and professional experience is to be found there. Yet the real, detailed grilling of the problem by the experts of the departments has already occurred. The Minister has already accepted valuable advice and made his own contribution if he is any good, and his job in Parliament is more by debating skill and agreeable manners to get the Bill through prolonged and successive readings as quickly as possible. Members of Parliament lacking the mass of detailed information which is only available in the departments are tempted instead to obstruct with party politics. We never learn all the facts until we become Ministers; that is why all party programmes are more or less bogus.

The task of the Minister is to grasp the facts available in the department, and to decide his action; it should, of course, coincide with and not contradict the party statement of intent at the previous election. If he knows his own mind and comes to clear deci-

sions he will be supported by the complete loyalty of the Civil Service. The elaborate paraphernalia of detailed Parliamentary discussion dates from a previous epoch, and today wastes time without really touching more than the fringe of the subject. My old gag about government and opposition—fancy running a factory by paying one man to do a job and another man to stop him—was demagogic, but contained an element of truth.

Admittedly Ministers would lose some time in dealing with all-party committees to co-operate with the departments, but nothing like the time they now waste in hanging about the lobbies day and night in idle discussion. Also there would be a corresponding gain in learning continually what was happening in the country from M.P.s who were in close and constant touch with their constituents. My wish that "Governments should always know what the people are thinking, and the people should always know what the government is doing", would then be implemented. The Prime Minister would find it worthwhile to see these committees at regular intervals and to learn the facts of daily life. He would also do well to inform and be informed by often submitting himself to interrogation before television by skilled journalists armed with all the facts of their organisations. That would be the beginning of "participation".

For the rest, effective participation surely entails the consultation of every man in his daily work, above all the careful study of any idea he presents for its improvement, and opportunity to enter in an organised form into all questions affecting his daily community life at home. This is an interest which has occupied me from the co-partnership and profit-sharing schemes of the twenties to the "European Socialism"—briefly, syndicalism in industries now nationalised—which I was suggesting in the fifties. It was inherent, too, in my proposals for an occupational franchise in the thirties. I do not, at present, advocate this reform, because such great changes will be necessary before long to overcome economic crisis that we should undertake nothing which is not strictly necessary; we should say with Jeremy Bentham: "minimise pain". What matters is that full outlet to every man's mind and spirit in work and daily life shall be secured in this mechanical age.

Can we then agree that democracy consists firstly in government with the duty and the power to do what the people have elected it to do, subject not only to their will at frequent multi-party elections but also to instant dismissal at any time by their elected representatives, and secondly in the organised consultation of the whole people in their work and daily life in a manner so thorough and systematic that it can only be initiated and conducted under the auspices of the government they have elected for this

purpose? If we can agree that some such measures can give the people effective control over their internal affairs and lives, we are still faced with the problem how they can change the present control of their country by external factors. It is not much good taking all this trouble to manage our own affairs, if they can be completely upset any day by some outsider.

What Mr. Attlee used to call "external factors" have continuously wrecked the best laid plans of social democrat governments both in Britain and Europe. We depend at present not only on the vagaries of world markets

**"Are they really so
proud of the roast beef
of old England being
cooked for ever in
Wall Street?"**

but on control by foreign bankers who dictate to British government the necessary measures to maintain our balance of payments. In this sphere one or other of the weak, divided European countries is always in trouble, because it is self-evident that all countries cannot simultaneously sell more than they buy. The resultant movements from surplus into deficit and back into surplus are ordained by foreign bankers: we live under a system of external financial control. What nonsense in these circumstances to talk of the sovereignty of the nation or its people, or even to maintain that democracy exists. We are governed not by the vote of the people but by dictates from abroad, and in an Eurodollar world by inflation partly imported from abroad.

It is necessary to unite with the rest of Europe in order to establish any true basis of democracy. We need not only common market but also common government; I have always contended that to put common market before common government was to put the cart before the horse. We must become a single self-contained country, with no more payments problems within its borders than exists today between Lancashire and Yorkshire. A firm in Manchester may by successful competition put out of business a firm in Lyons or Hamburg—or vice versa—but there will be no national balance of payments problem between Britain, France and Germany. We will never solve these problems or win true independence for the people to rule their own lives by their votes until we have common government and common market; in short, Europe a Nation for which I declared in 1948.

It has long been admitted that to win access to the large and assured market which renders possible modern mass production we must enter a wider economic community. Now it becomes clear to all who seriously study the industrial and technical problem that advanced industries can only be deve-

loped with the related resources of an entire continent. I was not far out in the 1940s in saying (1946 and 1947): "The union of Europe becomes not merely a dream or a desire but a necessity" and "Politics must bring in the new world of science to redress the balance of the old world of Europe". European politics, industries and science are becoming completely interwoven, and I maintain again that it was right then to say: "modern statesmen should live and work with scientists as the Medicis lived with artists". They must also live as Europeans and not as mutually suspicious villagers.

What becomes of our national culture and institutions?—the usual misunderstanding arises at this point. Are they really so proud of the roast beef of old England being cooked for ever in Wall Street? Cannot they see that the only way to save our national culture and institutions from the control of foreign bankers, from Americanisation or Soviet domination, is to get together with other Europeans not only to save our whole homeland and make it greater Europe but to preserve our individual cultures within our mutual strength? The combined might of Great Britain never obliged any Englishman to eat haggis or play the bag-pipes, but it did preserve both English and Scottish culture from outside domination for several centuries.

Directly we consider a realistic structure for Europe it is clear that the individual national cultures would be preserved and the control of the people over their own lives would, at length, be established. The government of Europe a Nation should deal only with such questions as foreign policy, defence and the general economic leadership of the whole continent; it would depend on the vote of all the people of Europe for a European Parliament. National Parliaments would also exist as they do today, to deal with all the social and cultural questions of the individual states within Europe. Further devolution to the regions would also be necessary in local parliaments dealing directly with the daily lives of the people. There would be more, not less opportunity than now for the development of local culture. Government can be built in three tiers, the region, the old nation and the new nation. The new nation—Europe a Nation—would comprise both the regions and the old nations, but would not supersede them. Europe in union alone can give all our peoples the strength and the means to control their own lives and to direct their own destinies. Democracy will then cease to be a sham and become a reality. Our people will enter a wider life of limitless opportunity, in which their political genius may develop to the benefit of all mankind.

●First published in "Eboracum",
York University, December 1970

1 Mosley warned

it is the scrap-heap.

As Oswald Mosley warned in *The Greater Britain* in 1932, there is another reason why low wage Eastern competition menaces "the whole structure of Western civilisation".

In Britain today government spending counts for a lot. Defence, the Health Service, pensions, the dole for 2½ million unemployed all paid for by the government. So are the arts, National Heritage, grants to science and industry all get millions. Education depends on it.

In reality the taxpayer pays. The whole immense structure rests on what he pays in taxes. But before he can pay he must keep his job.

So far the invasion of British markets by Eastern competition is in its early stage. The eastward exodus of jobs from Britain has only just begun but it is bound to increase rapidly in what is now a cut-throat world. It is only a matter of time before unemployment surges up again. But, apart from VAT and the excise duties taxpayers are forced to pay on consumer goods the unemployed cannot pay taxes.

What happens then? Another big rise in unemployment means a big fall in the tax 'take' for the government, bridged only by going massively into debt, when the clammy hand of the user gets a fresh grip on the nation's throat. At least it means 'crisis' for the Welfare State, not to mention education, the arts, National Heritage and the rest.

Low-wage Eastern competition strikes as everything! And when the Asia-admirers tell us every day in the media that the East will dominate capitalism in the next century, it will be no short crisis for the Welfare State, the British economy, or Western civilisation itself.

Mosley warned again and again. He said it all and he said it first. His solution alone remains.

T.V. NEVER NEVER LAND

TO CONJECTURE on the implications of Hitler's plan to invade Britain in 1940, and the reaction of the British has been fertile ground for writers and film makers.

Operation Sea Lion as it was code-named never took place but in 1956 a young film enthusiast Kevin Brownlow started making a feature on the theme IT HAPPENED HERE, the film's eventual title.

Hopelessly underfunded but fueled on by a small group of enthusiasts, it took 10 years to complete. The idea of Britain invaded and conquered, with civil order maintained by a 'Quisling' type administration was an interesting but bizarre interpretation of the British character. Finally completed in 1966 it was given a West End screening but never attracted a large audience. It was soon withdrawn, to reappear at the odd film festival and a television presentation in the 1970s.

The outrageous element of the film depicted a thinly disguised Mosley, with his supporters acting as willing collaborators. Uniformed Black-shirts with flash and circle armbands litter the film, aiding German troops to suppress the population. Added to this travesty was Mosley's voice from the record "Comrades in Struggle" in 1938. In reality, on the outbreak of war, Mosley issued a message to his British Union members which included: "I ask you to do nothing to injure our country or help any other power" and we now know from British Union's Roll of Honour in the pages of "Comrade" that this was fulfilled by those of his supporters who paid the supreme sacrifice in the armed forces. A number of eminent historians in the post-war years have agreed that Mosley would never have turned traitor and co-operated with any invader.

The general public found it impossible to support such rubbish, consigning the film to the dustbin of history, but fast forward to November 5 1994 and the BBC decided to examine the film and give an acknowledged flop another showing. After so many years the film shows more than ever its amateur status with bad acting, poor photography and a

REVIEWS

preposterous story. Shown after midnight with minimal audience it should be a good few years before it is resurrected again.

Roy Cummings

● This review should have appeared in the January "Comrade" which was not published owing to illness of "the editor."

WASTED TALENTS Curzon and Mosley

THOUGH the two men were so different in character, there are many parallels in the careers of Lord Curzon and his son-in-law, Oswald Mosley. Both possessed great abilities; both resigned Government Office on matters of principle; both spent long periods in the political wilderness, in Mosley's case never to return. If Curzon was "Talented, colourful, controversial, a man of prodigious energy," as so described in the blurb of David Gilmour's new biography, so too was Mosley.

The younger son of a Baron who was by no means rich, the arrogant and snobbish George Nathaniel Curzon was regarded as a future Prime Minister even while still at Eton. After an unsuccessful contest elsewhere he was elected Conservative MP for Southport in 1886. His maiden speech caused consternation when he strongly criticised both Lord Randolph Churchill and Mr Gladstone. Seldom, said a writer in The Observer, had a young man ever addressed the House with such cheek!

In 1891, Curzon became Under-Secretary for India; and in 1898, at the age of 39, he was appointed Viceroy and Governor-General of India. He was largely responsible for the restoration of the Taj Mahal - which he regarded as 'incomparable' in its beauty. In 1894 Curzon visited the Emir of Afghanistan, Abdur Rahman - 'a sort of Afghan Henry VIII'. To impress the Ruler, Curzon arrived dressed like a Ruritanian General - gold epulettes, fake decorations and a huge and very genuine sword. The two men could hardly have been more different, yet immediately there was an instant rapport between them.

Curzon, who supported the existing system of dual civil and military control of the Indian Army soon found himself involv-

ed in a power struggle with General Kitchener, the Commander-in-Chief - who had ambitions to become Viceroy himself. In August 1905, Curzon resigned. There then followed 11 years in the political wilderness until on 27 May 1915 - when Herbert Asquith formed his Coalition Cabinet. Curzon was made Lord Privy Seal - a pretty minor post.

Before he had married in 1895, Curzon had travelled widely - despite a permanent pain caused by a deformed spine which required him to wear a steel brace - and made himself an expert on Asian Affairs, writing five books including Problems of the Far East, dedicated 'to those who believe that the British Empire is, under Providence, the greatest instrument for good that the world has seen'.

In 1919 he was appointed Foreign Secretary and had this post until 1924. The final irony of his life was to find that the Peerage granted to him in 1898 provided an excuse for preventing him from becoming Premier on Boner Law's retirement. "None of them," Stanley Baldwin got the job.

How did Curzon and Mosley get on? This subject is not explored by David Gilmour but the answer seems to be "reasonably well". Curzon was sufficiently concerned with his son-in-law's welfare as to warn him not to run the risk of becoming "a brilliant lone wolf." Before Mosley's marriage to Cynthia, Curzon would have worried that this suitor - any suitor - was a fortune-hunter (he had, after all, been one himself). After the marriage he must have been worried because Cynthia and Mosley were both exhibiting alarming socialistic tendencies.

Curzon warned that Britain would immediately become a third-class power if it abandoned control of India. How right he was!

PETER MARCY

● "Curzon" by David Gilmour. 684 pages. John Murray £25

* Greetings *

To Lady Mosley
on her Birthday
17th June

WANTED

Sir Oswald Mosley's "Europe: Faith and Plan"
Box No. RW10, 101, Orwell Court,
Pownall Road, London, E8 4PP

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